PRIDE
VICTORY

TRADITION
DEDICATION
INSPIRATION
MATTERS
HERE

...Matters Here

PRIDE Matters Here.

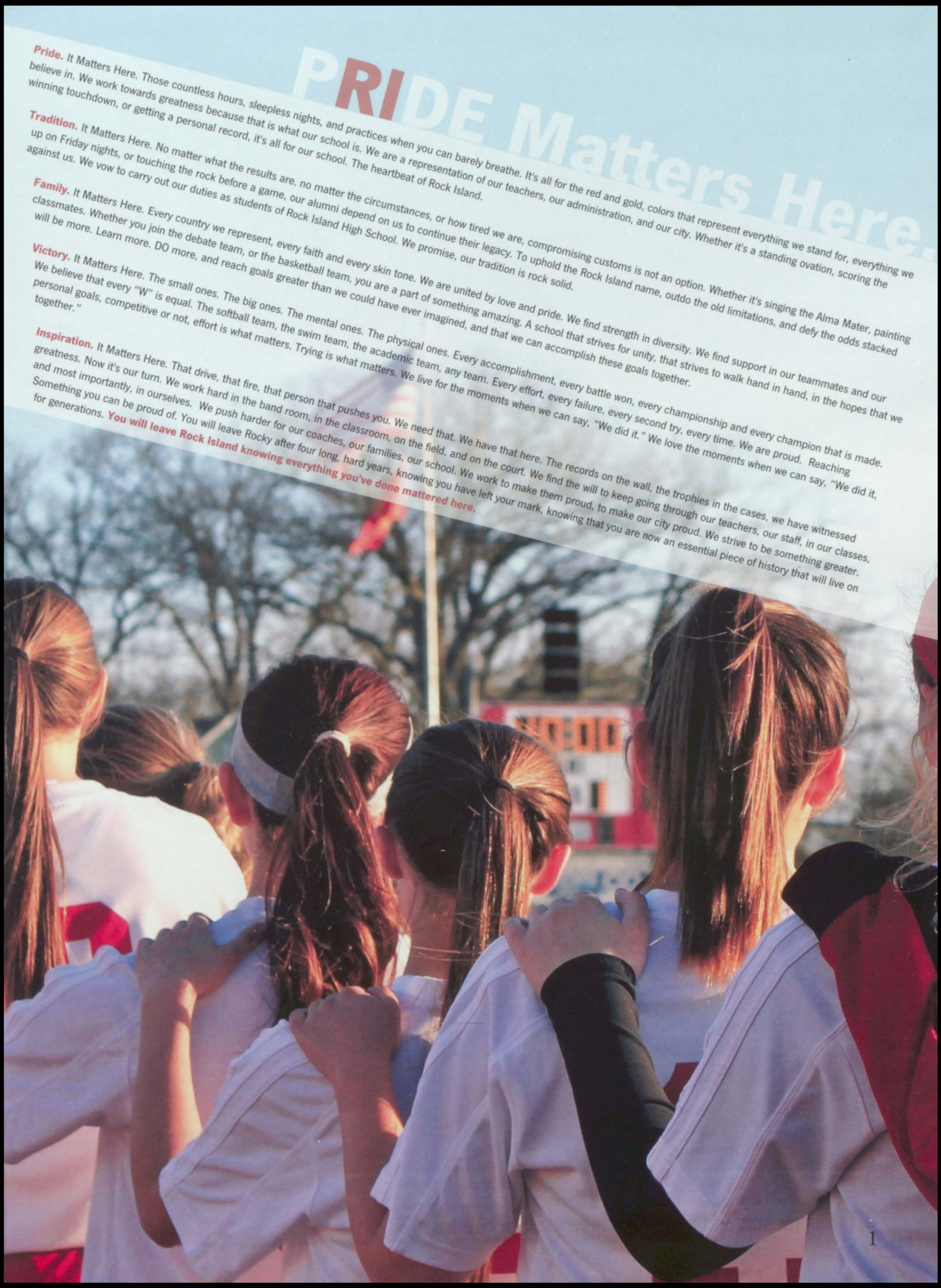
Pride. It Matters Here. Those countless hours, sleepless nights, and practices when you can barely breathe. It's all for the red and gold, colors that represent everything we stand for, everything we believe in. We work towards greatness because that is what our school is. We are a representation of our teachers, our administration, and our city. Whether it's a standing ovation, scoring the winning touchdown, or getting a personal record, it's all for our school. The heartbeat of Rock Island.

Tradition. It Matters Here. No matter what the results are, no matter the circumstances, or how tired we are, compromising customs is not an option. Whether it's singing the Alma Mater, painting up on Friday nights, or touching the rock before a game, our alumni depend on us to continue their legacy. To uphold the Rock Island name, outdo the old limitations, and defy the odds stacked against us. We vow to carry out our duties as students of Rock Island High School. We promise, our tradition is rock solid.

Family. It Matters Here. Every country we represent, every faith and every skin tone. We are united by love and pride. We find strength in diversity. We find support in our teammates and our classmates. Whether you join the debate team, or the basketball team, you are a part of something amazing. A school that strives for unity, that strives to walk hand in hand, in the hopes that we will be more. Learn more. DO more, and reach goals greater than we could have ever imagined, and that we can accomplish these goals together.

Victory. It Matters Here. The small ones. The big ones. The mental ones. The physical ones. Every accomplishment, every battle won, every championship and every champion that is made. We believe that every "W" is equal. The softball team, the swim team, the academic team, any team. Every effort, every failure, every second try, every time. We are proud. Reaching personal goals, competitive or not, effort is what matters. Trying is what matters. We live for the moments when we can say, "We did it." We love the moments when we can say, "We did it, together."

Inspiration. It Matters Here. That drive, that fire, that person that pushes you. We need that. We have that here. The records on the wall, the trophies in the cases, we have witnessed greatness. Now it's our turn. We work hard in the band room, in the classroom, on the field, and on the court. We find the will to keep going through our teachers, our staff, in our classes, and most importantly, in ourselves. We push harder for our coaches, our families, our school. We work to make them proud, to make our city proud. We strive to be something greater. Something you can be proud of. You will leave Rocky after four long, hard years, knowing you have left your mark, knowing that you are now an essential piece of history that will live on for generations. **You will leave Rock Island knowing everything you've done mattered here.**

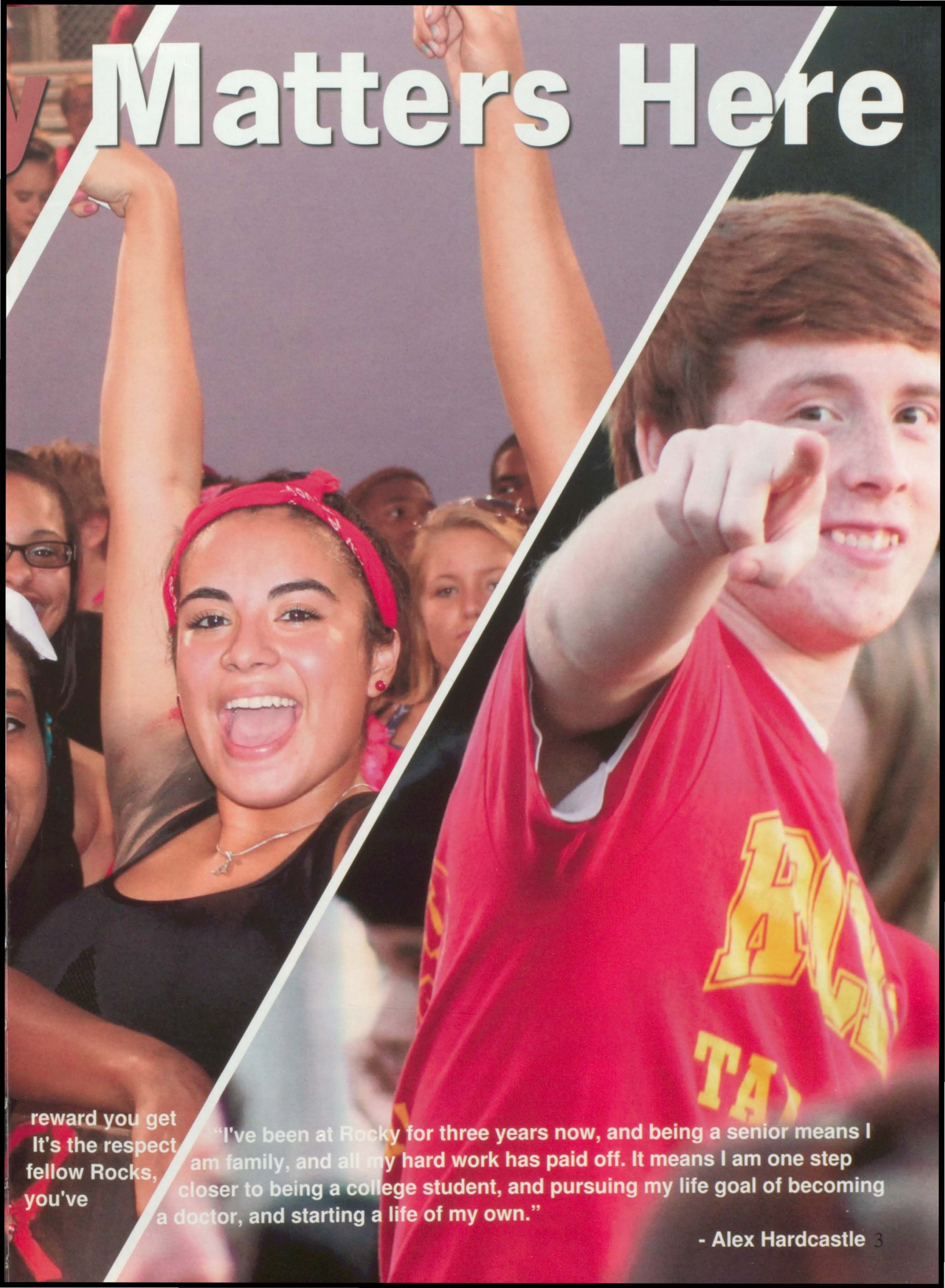


Seniorit

"Seniority matters to me because I get to lead the underclassmen in traditions in both band and theater, set the example of a great leader, and watch the underclassmen grow, and eventually, lead the traditions themselves."
- Christian Colmenares

"Seniority matters because everyone needs their sets of checks and balances, and once you've been the underdog, you realize how important it is to have control on every level."
- Jacklyn Young

"Seniority matters to me because it's the for making it through three long hard years. you've earned from your school, and your and it's also a reminder of who you are, how far come, and the bright future you have ahead."
- Jasmine Babers



Matters Here

reward you get
It's the respect
fellow Rocks,
you've

"I've been at Rocky for three years now, and being a senior means I am family, and all my hard work has paid off. It means I am one step closer to being a college student, and pursuing my life goal of becoming a doctor, and starting a life of my own."

- Alex Hardcastle

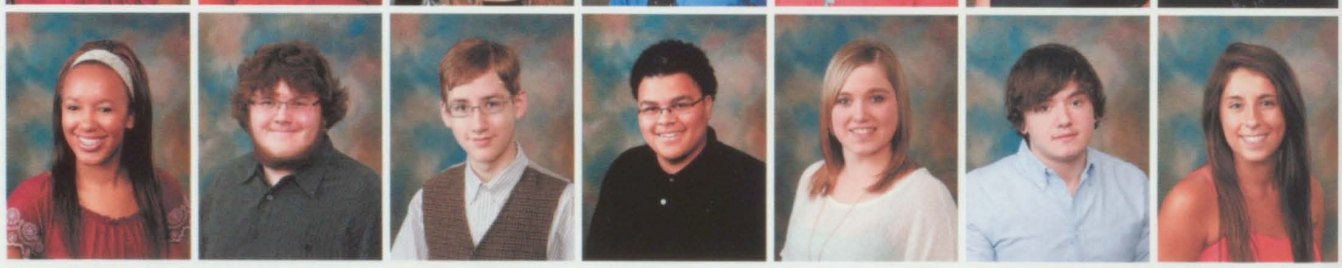
Musabe Adorocasse
Travon Aldridge
Nikiza Alexis
Patrick Alongi
Ashly Anderson
Laetitia Anderson
Lea Anderson

Katya Andrade
Kilie Angusich
Courtney Arnold
Alec Aunan
Alexia Avena
Antonetta Axup
Ashley Ayala

Jasmine Babers
Claire Bacon
Benjamin Barnes
Shannon Barnett
Keontaye Beason
Ran Bhandari
Gina Blair

Adriana Blanco
Erinnd Blanco
Nicole Blood
Andrew Bloomfield
Jordan Bowden
Allyson Boyle
Donald Bradley

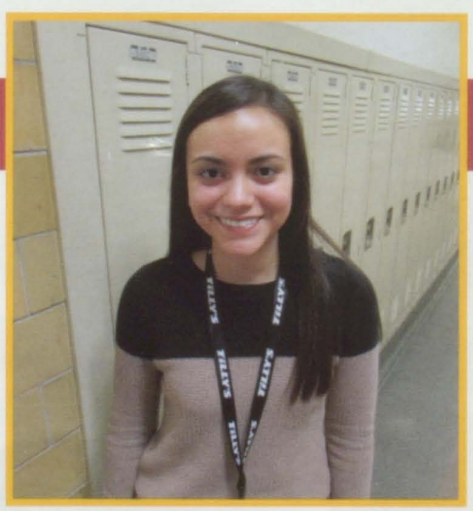
Lexis Bragg
Joshua Bushnell
Andrew Calder
Jeffrey Campbell
Stephanie Carey
Connor Carmen
Samantha Carr



Memories at the Rock

"I am going to miss all of the friendships I've made through sports, and all the people I've become close to over the years."
- Austin Simmer

"I'm going to miss all the great people I've met and awesome memories I've made."
- Rosa Mejia



Shamia Clark
Felicia Contreras
Delema Cowan
Dillon Cralle
Anthony Cross
Dustin Davis
Torianna Davis

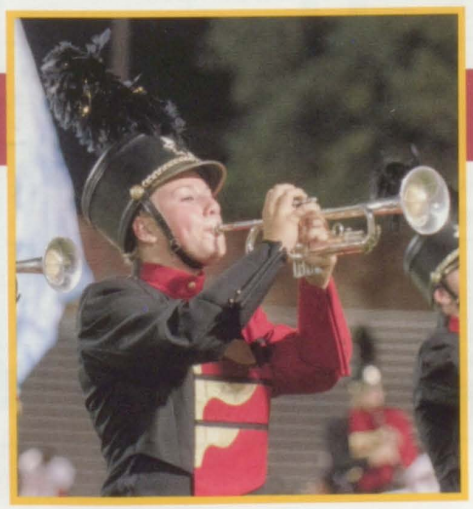
Tyler DeHaven
Ashley DeRoo
Katherine Dix
Haley Dorman
Alberto Dunbar
Craig Durbin
Travis Eggers-Duarte

Christopher Ehimwenman
Molly Eirinberg
Bucumi Emmanuel
Hailey Feldhahn
Christopher Fischer
Lilly Fischer
Amanda Fleener

Alicia Freiburg
Tee Ga
Rebecca Galvin
Victoria Garcia
Nikki Garrison
Cullen George
Charles Giles

Chastity Gingry
Xaviere Granado
Jane Gray
Jordan Griffin
Laxmi Gurung
Steven Gustaf
Michael Gustafson

Seniors tell what they will miss after their graduation day.



"One thing I'm going to miss when I graduate is all of the bonds I've made, and families I've joined from participating in sports and the marching band." - Jacklyn Young

"I'm really going to miss these stairs. After graduation, I'm going to have to actually work out on a daily basis." - Jacob Sigler

Alex Hardcastle
Hannah Hart
Destiney Hearn
Camie Herbert
Andrea Hergert
Bibiana Hernandez
Dennicia Hickman

Jeffery Hickman
Christopher Hummel
Devin Jackson
Corey Jacobs
Ryan Jacobs
Juilanna Jespersen
Sydney Johnson

DayQwon Jones
DeWan Jones
Jerry Jones
KiAnna Jones
LaShonta Jones
Michael Jones
Ndayiringiye Juste

Issac Katzenburger
Keelyandra Kirkbride
Isabella KongKousonh
Alliyah Kowalik
Eh Ku
Moe Kyaw
Keonna Lampkin

Sidney Laughlin
Mackenzie Leatherman
Tianna Lecander
Kaitlyn Lesage
Brandy Lewis
LaCresha Linton
Brett Livingston

Tweets with Claire Bacon @C_Biscuit32

Tweeting what we are all thinking

1. Found out Jennifer Lawrence plays the oboe too, and got a little bit too pumped. I really need to stop being so weird.
2. If you say you don't like McDonald's you're a liar...Go eat your lettuce.
3. Maybe if I go eat some snacks, my essay will write itself.
4. Do I want snack size or regular size? What kind of question is that?
5. Whenever I sing along to Jennifer Hudson songs, I just automatically feel like I am the fourth Dream Girl #moveovaaaBeyonce

Alecia Mallek
Amanda Manary
Amanda Manning
Tyler Manuel
Analisa Marceleno
Diego Marceleno
Ciara Martinez

Samantha Martinez
Alyssa Matejcek
Cain Matter
Kelsie Matter
Tristan Mattson
Signe Maurus
Hanna McCraw

Morgan McCready
Elijah Meek-Bobb
Rosa Mejia
Jordan Mewes
Jennifer Michel
Som Bahadur Mongar
Sean Moore

Citlally Morales-Guzman
Patricia Morgan
Evan Morris
Jamal Morrow
James Morrow
Erin Munson
Melissa Munson

Grant Myers
Isabella Naab
Simon Ndabishuriya
Jire Ndayikengurukiye
Ndagijimana Necode
Cole Neder
Nicholas Niles

Decisions
(About College Choices) Matter Here

De'Aysha Walker will be attending Muscatine Community College for a softball scholarship. It was love at first sight for Walker. "I really liked the campus, and they have a good softball program," said Walker.

Sammy Carr will be attending St. Ambrose University for an academic scholarship and to play tennis. Carr took a different approach to choosing her new home next fall. "It's close to home, and my mom can come pick me up. Plus, they have a good education program," said Carr.

C.J. Carr will be attending Southern Illinois University Edwardsville for a basketball scholarship. When deciding on where to attend, Carr considered a few issues. "I felt comfortable with everyone there, and it's closer to home," said Carr.

Jasmine Ragusi will be attending Kirkwood Community College for a softball scholarship. Ragusi put a lot of thought into where she wanted to continue her post high school career. "It was just based on how the school felt when I was there, and how the softball coach was with me. It just felt right," said Ragusi.

Joselyne Nimpaye Maombi
Eric Niyonsaba
Faith Northcutt
Steven Nowinski
Dieudonne Nsengiyumva
Emmakire Nyamwiza
Tairik O'Leary

Hannah Ohlsen
Okito Olenga
Ciza Olevia
Gabriela Orduna De Leon
Rebecca Ornelis
Emily Pagel
Hser Ka Paw

Andrew Pearson
Devan Penry
Gabrielle Pepping
Dominique Perkins
Ariana Peterson
Katherine Phillips
Elizabeth Phillis

Carissa Pierce
Kyrstin Plohr
Alyssa Pool
De'Shavonne Pulliam
Gay Ler Pweh
Jasmine Ragusi
Mercedes Ramirez

Jillyan Randle
Jacqueline Rangel
Avanish Reddy
Breayona Reed
Devin Rochelle
Mariela Rocillo
Jamasha Rockett

George Roderick
Hannah Rodgers
Jeremy Romero
Veda Rossi
Jean-Louis Sawadogo
Tyia Schauland
Taylor Schiller

Nicholas Schmidt
Emma Schneekloth
Joseph Schultz
Hay Seet
Stephen Selsor
Jinesh Shah
Kyndall Shaw

Tyler Shewell
Keenan Shorter
Stuart Shuck
Trey Sigel
Jacob Sigler
Tiarra Simelton
Austin Simmer

Helena Smiley
Jameila Smith
Luke Smith
Vanessa Spidle
Trevor Staes
Blue Stallings
Quineesha Steele

Brittney Stevenson
Emily Stockdale
Morgan Stoever
Rachael Stotts
David Straw
Deannea Tanner
Kirsten Tauke

Sydney Taylor
Quavanese Teague
Anna Teggatz
Jerome Thomas
Mystique Thompson
Carly Thornton
Brandi Trice

Bailey Trude
Isabel Vallejo
Bailey VanDerGinst
Rebecca VanSeveren
Nidia Villalpando
Devon Wagener
De'Aysha Walker

Jacob Walker
Jasmine Walker
Alyssa Walton
Justin Whitcomb
Abigail Wieland
Elizabeth Wieland
Abby Williams

Kayla Williams
Jason Willis
Paul Wilson
Phillip Witmer
Sean Wolking
Chandler Work
Jacklyn Young

Kaitlyn Young

With Pets: Jespersen Doesn't Chicken Out

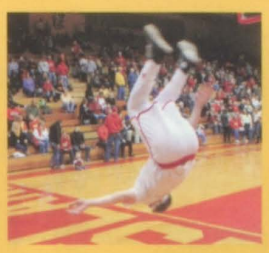
Admit it. You spent a large majority of your childhood begging for a pet dog. You probably still do. Creating lists of why you deserve one, showing you are responsible, and maybe a test run, babysitting a dog belonging to one of your friends lucky enough to get one. But you probably cannot relate to Jespersen's dreams of owning a pet chicken as much. She spent months begging her mom for chickens in fifth grade. She admits to probably annoying her quite a bit about getting one. Juli said, "My whole life I wanted chickens. I wanted to live on a farm when I grew up, too."

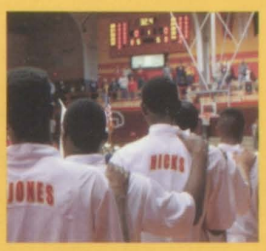
This was not the typical dream of a nine year old. Her dream has continued throughout her whole life. Now, Juli is a senior, and she has 16 hens and one rooster. They live in a special enclosure in her huge backyard.

Like most seniors, Juli is making a huge decision: Picking the right college and right major for her. "Since chickens are my favorite animal, and I have been raising them since fifth grade, I decided to be a part of the Animal Science and Vet Program at Iowa State University." Juli added, "I am very impressed with their program, and I plan to specialize in poultry, cows, and sheep." This unique major is extremely fitting for Juli, considering that not only has she always loved animals, she also has found a hobby in raising animals, too. Juli takes her chickens to fairs all over the Midwest, and competes with her animals, including her chickens. This year, Juli and her chickens won Grand Champion and Overall Reserve Champion. Juli's house is filled with medals and ribbons.

Raising chickens is not always fun and games. Juli warned, "One time, I was woken up at four in the morning, in my pajamas, to save the chickens from getting attacked by raccoons." Luckily, she saved them. Her favorite chicken, Spooky, who she got in sixth grade, was affected in the raccoon tragedy and a fox tragedy. She is now blind, but saving her is what really created the bond between Juli and her chicken, Spooky.

Juli has been enthusiastic about raising different animals her whole life. Her experience with her pets will undoubtedly help her achieve great success in college and her future career. Who knew what started as a unique pet would turn into a career choice and passion?





Whatever you are,
BE A GOOD ONE.

AND YOU'LL ALWAYS BE A ROCK.

Your Story Matters Here

Throughout our lives, we are faced with many obstacles and twice as many tough decisions to make. We must find bravery within ourselves to determine what is the best decision. Amanda Manary, senior, has made a decision to join the Army Reserves with an eight year contract. "I wanted to join for the financial benefits and they will help pay for my college," she explained. Although, Amanda is still very young, she wanted to experience what the Army would be like before making the Army her full time job. Her training will start the summer of 2014. "I'm training to become a medic in the Army, so hopefully, I don't have to do too much fighting, however, the idea of stitching someone up in the middle of the battlefield is somewhat frightening!"

Amanda will leave behind her lifelong friends and family for a six month training in Iowa City. After her training, she will attend the University of Iowa to major in biochemistry, and eventually become a surgeon after she is out of the Army.

With Amanda being so young and joining the Army only at 17 years old, her parents share the same fears as her. However, bigger than the fear they both hold, her parents have shown a great deal of support for her decision, and are very proud of her. She has not only gained their support, but she has made her closest friends proud of what she will become.

Amanda will be greatly missed by many people, but she is making a courageous decision, and everyone who is lucky enough to be a part of her life will be proud of what she accomplishes. Amanda's bravery has brought inspiration to everyone around her, and she didn't even know it. " I never joined the Army to inspire anyone, but I do advocate for others to look into joining because it has been a great experience for me."

Walking through the halls, it is no question that diversity is present. We, as students, have the privilege to explore the world by hearing the stories of our classmates. However, we lose the opportunity, because we get caught up in a world we take for granted.

A student here at Rocky, was born and raised in America but his culture resides almost 8,000 miles away. Jinesh Shah, senior, loves his life here in America, but wouldn't want to miss out on the other half of himself. "India is truly a beautiful country filled with rich culture and ancient tradition," said Jinesh. Jinesh visits India whenever there is a special family occasion. When Jinesh is there, he sees new sites every time. "The malls, the movie theaters, the restaurants, the hotels; everything in India is evolving," explained Shah.

India is an extremely different environment compared to America. According to Shah, "Most people live in flats, or apartments, because most residential neighborhoods in India are vertically oriented." The neighborhoods are crammed with people because India is so overly populated. Even though life in India is extremely hectic, Jinesh has benefited greatly from his interesting background. Jinesh explains, "Knowing a country's language really does increase your appreciation for it." Jinesh's Dad was born and raised in India; as a result, Jinesh has learned how to speak Hindi. Hindi is the language that most people in India speak. Also, Jinesh knows how to speak Guajarati because that is the language the people in his state that he visits speak. Lastly, being a U.S. citizen at birth, he also knows English. Overall, because of Jinesh's background, he has had the opportunity to become trilingual.

"America has a lot more diversity, so I get to meet people of all different ethnicities and races," expressed Jinesh. Jinesh is extremely thankful that his parents came to America for vacation and never left. However, living in America has its disadvantages. "Living in America, it's really hard to maintain my religion and lead a normal life at the same time," admitted Jinesh. Following the religion of Jadism, Jinesh has to be a vegetarian, and cannot harm any living organism. From a simple fly, to the common deer, Jinesh will always maintain respect and compassion for them. When it comes to being a vegetarian, Jinesh finds some problems. According to his religion, he is not allowed to eat meat, fish, eggs, bread, dairy products, or food that grows under the ground. However, Jinesh and his family have noticed that in America it is nearly impossible to find food that doesn't contain dairy products. "We have made some exceptions. We eat vegetables that grow under the ground, and we consume dairy products," explained Jinesh. Moreover, America has a limited amount of temples where people who practice Jadism can pray. Because of the minimal amount of temples, Jinesh's family has taken control. "We have created a small temple in my home and I pray there every day before I go to school," said Jinesh. Although Jinesh loves the American environment, keeping his Indian traditions is nothing shy of difficult.

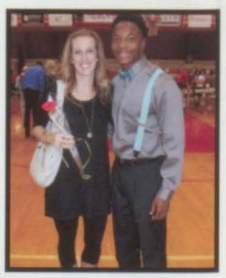
Overall, Jinesh is extremely thankful for the life he lives today. "My parents have raised me, in my opinion, the best way any parents could raise their child," admitted Jinesh. He has the opportunity to view a whole new world that his ancestors were a part of. Jinesh emphasizes, "I love everything about my life, and I feel extremely blessed to be able to be a part of two different cultures."

Being a student alone is hard. Being a student athlete is even more difficult. Add in a time consuming extra curricular, and you've hit the trifecta. Marcus Jackson is no stranger to the conflicts and complications all of that includes. Yet, Marcus doesn't slack off on one or the other, and wouldn't choose to do anything else. "I like doing all of them," Marcus said. "I can balance time doing multiple things."

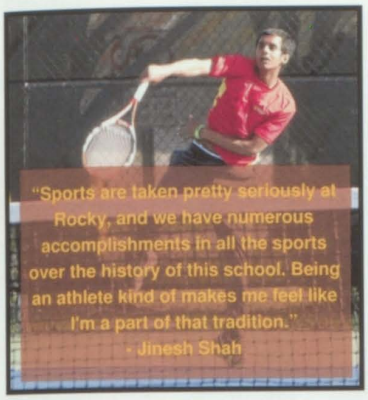
Not only does he manage to balance them, he excels at everything he does. Captain of the Wrestling Team, Marcus also runs track in the 300m hurdles and the 110m hurdles. In addition to that, Marcus is also a tenor of our school's highest choir, the Chamber Choir. He is a two time All-State vocalist, making the All-State Choir his junior and senior years.

Since he was a freshman, Marcus has often gotten overwhelmed with the responsibilities of wrestling and choir. Cutting weight and learning songs on top of practice and rehearsals, plus the time off school for performances and trips with the choir take up most of, if not all, of his time. During the holiday season, the Chamber Choir did 30 performances in 20 days, exactly at the start of the wrestling season. Just as wrestling ends, track practice starts. Over spring break, track gets in full swing, and Marcus must gain weight back, if he's lost any, and get back into "track shape."

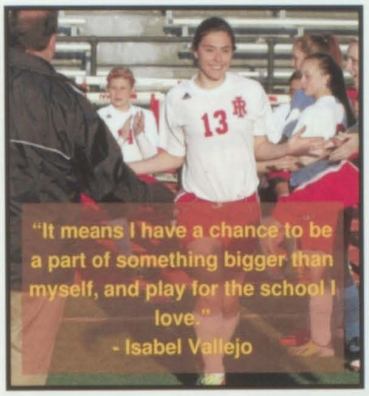
Busy throughout his senior year, Marcus has to scramble for time to apply to colleges. He plans on going to college and minoring in music. Although he may be a busy person, Marcus has not let his schedule deter him from the many things he has and wants to accomplish for his senior year. "Don't make excuses, if you love to do something, then do it." Marcus said.



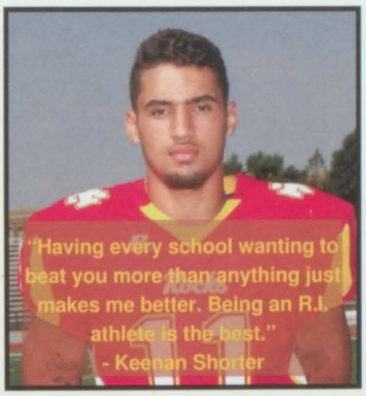
PLAY for the NAME on the FRONT of your JERSEY.



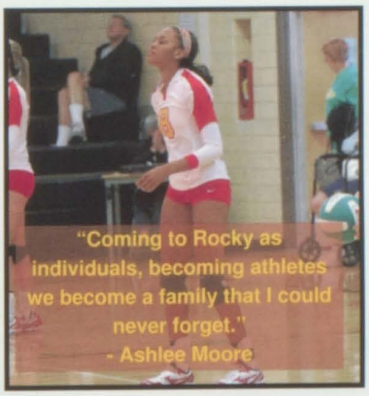
"Sports are taken pretty seriously at Rocky, and we have numerous accomplishments in all the sports over the history of this school. Being an athlete kind of makes me feel like I'm a part of that tradition."
- Jinesh Shah



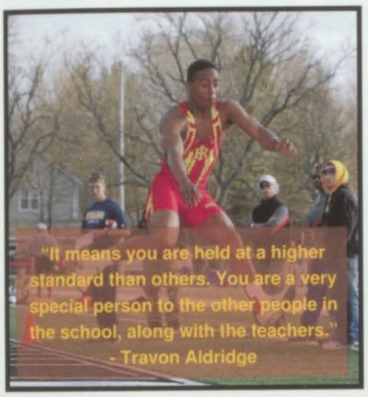
"It means I have a chance to be a part of something bigger than myself, and play for the school I love."
- Isabel Vallejo



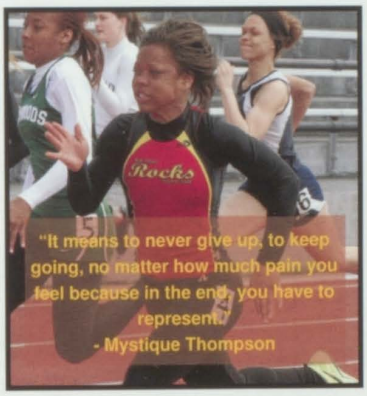
"Having every school wanting to beat you more than anything just makes me better. Being an R.I. athlete is the best."
- Keenan Shorter



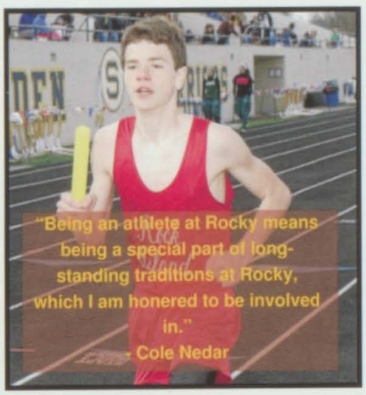
"Coming to Rocky as individuals, becoming athletes we become a family that I could never forget."
- Ashlee Moore



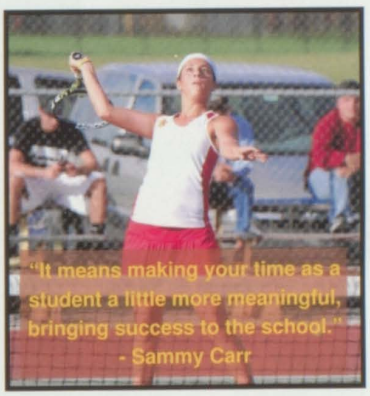
"It means you are held at a higher standard than others. You are a very special person to the other people in the school, along with the teachers."
- Travon Aldridge



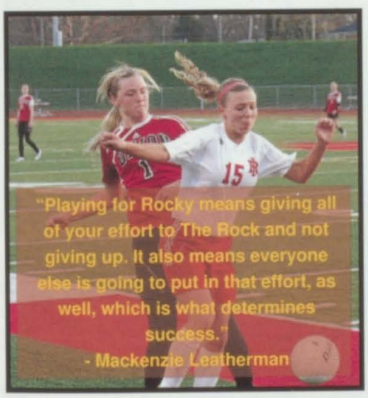
"It means to never give up, to keep going, no matter how much pain you feel because in the end, you have to represent."
- Mystique Thompson



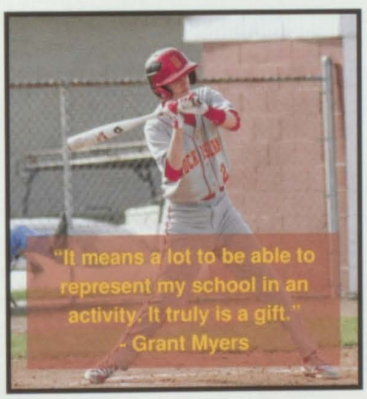
"Being an athlete at Rocky means being a special part of long-standing traditions at Rocky, which I am honered to be involved in."
- Cole Nedar



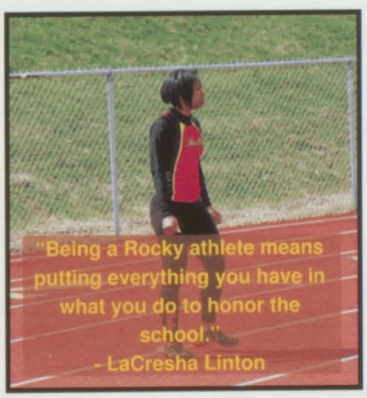
"It means making your time as a student a little more meaningful, bringing success to the school."
- Sammy Carr



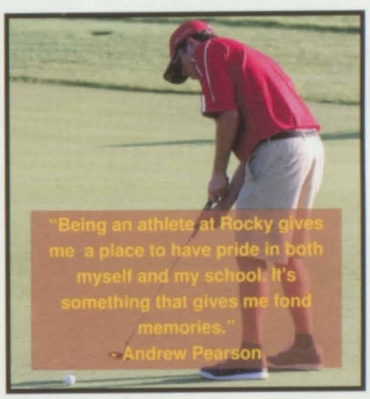
"Playing for Rocky means giving all of your effort to The Rock and not giving up. It also means everyone else is going to put in that effort, as well, which is what determines success."
- Mackenzie Leatherman



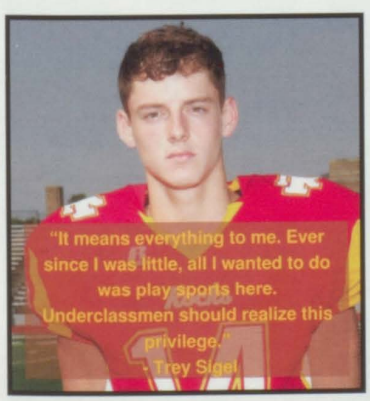
"It means a lot to be able to represent my school in an activity. It truly is a gift."
- Grant Myers



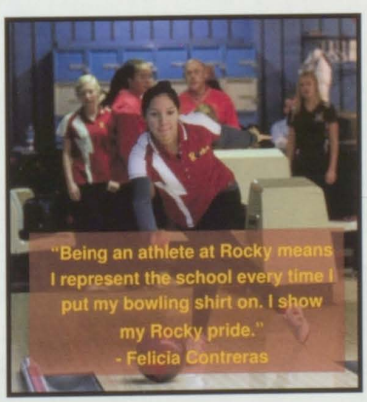
"Being a Rocky athlete means putting everything you have in what you do to honor the school."
- LaCresha Linton



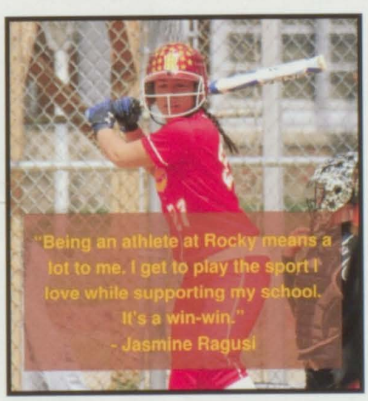
"Being an athlete at Rocky gives me a place to have pride in both myself and my school. It's something that gives me fond memories."
- Andrew Pearson



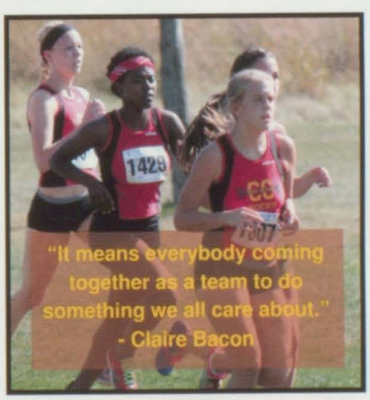
"It means everything to me. Ever since I was little, all I wanted to do was play sports here. Underclassmen should realize this privilege."
- Trey Sigel



"Being an athlete at Rocky means I represent the school every time I put my bowling shirt on. I show my Rocky pride."
- Felicia Contreras

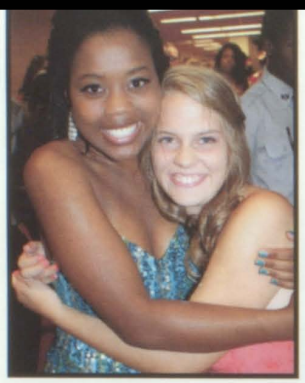


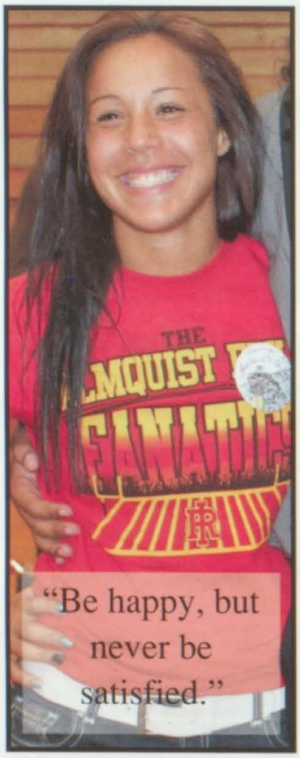
"Being an athlete at Rocky means a lot to me. I get to play the sport I love while supporting my school. It's a win-win."
- Jasmine Ragusi



"It means everybody coming together as a team to do something we all care about."
- Claire Bacon

Not the one on the BACK.



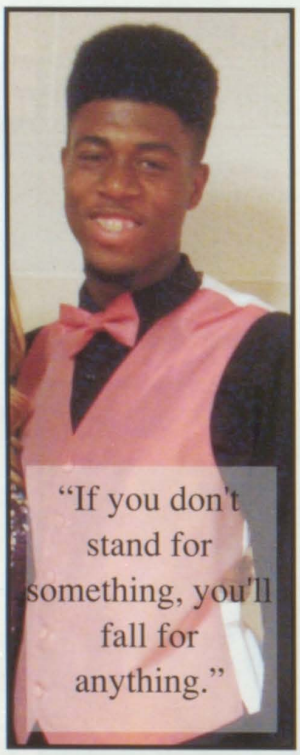

"Be happy, but never be satisfied."

"She doesn't even go here!"

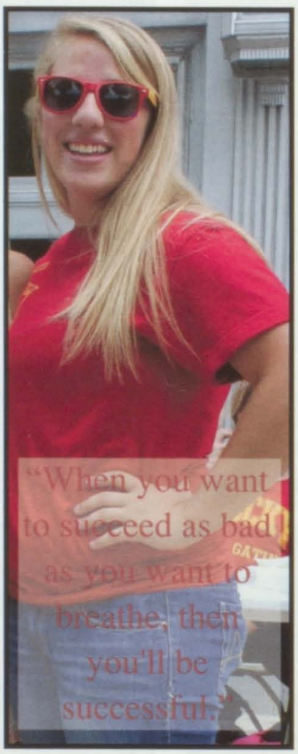
"Go out. Take chances. Build your own dreams, or someone else will hire you to build theirs."

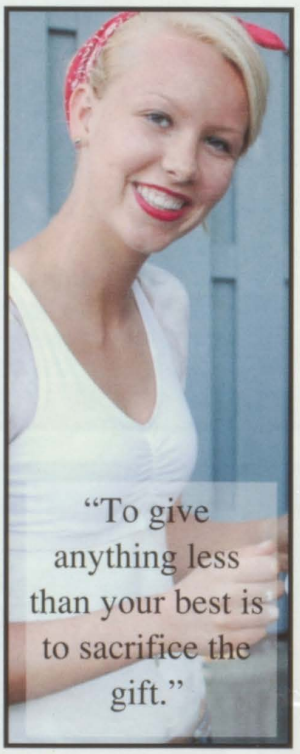
"Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard."

"There are far, far better things ahead than anything we leave behind."

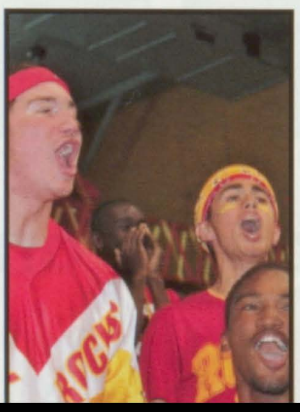

"If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

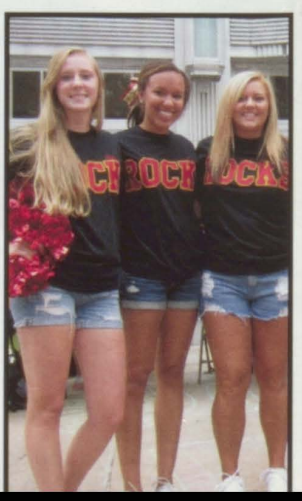
"I like my money where I can see it, hanging in my closet."


"When you want to succeed as bad as you want to breathe, then you'll be successful."

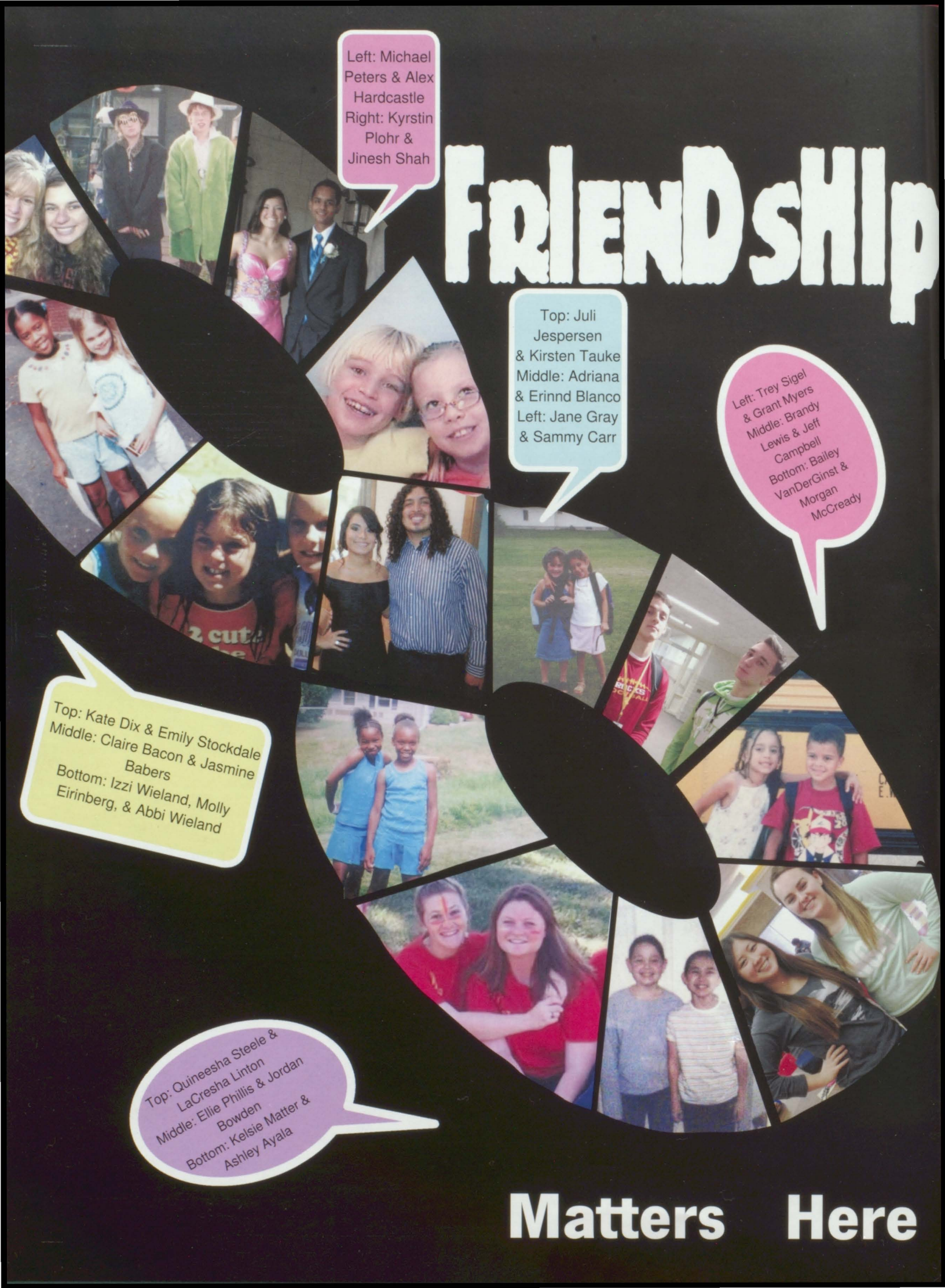

"To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift."

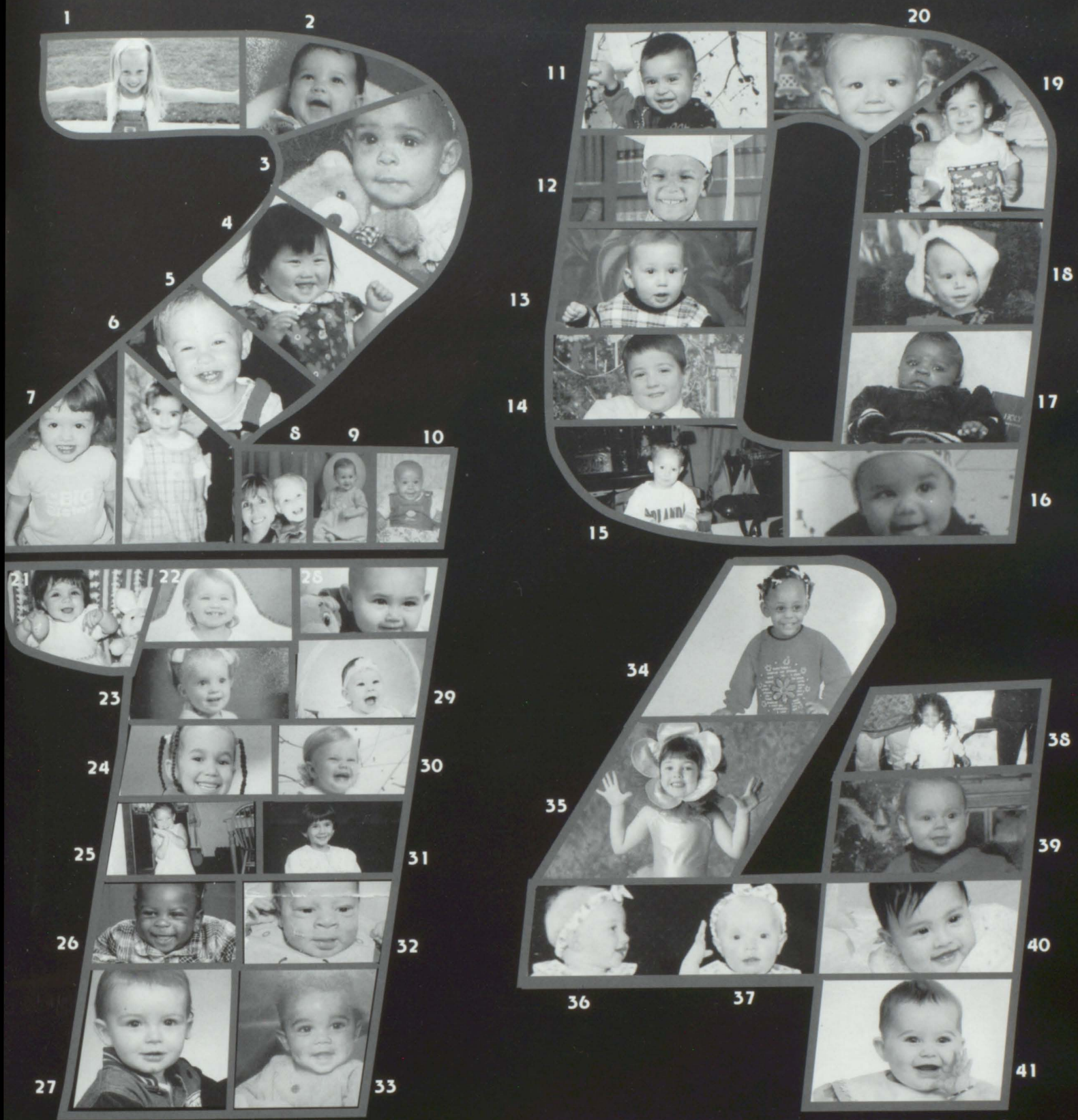
"I can accept failure. Everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying."





"Though the future years may part us, still together now.
Faith and love to old Rock Island,
Evermore we vow".


Left: Michael Peters & Alex Hardcastle
Right: Kyrstin Plohr & Jinesh Shah
FrIENDsHIp
Top: Juli Jespersen & Kirsten Tauke
Middle: Adriana & Erinnd Blanco
Left: Jane Gray & Sammy Carr
Left: Trey Sigel & Grant Myers
Middle: Brandy Lewis & Jeff Campbell
Bottom: Bailey VanDerGinst & Morgan McCready
Top: Kate Dix & Emily Stockdale
Middle: Claire Bacon & Jasmine Babers
Bottom: Izzi Wieland, Molly Eirinberg, & Abbi Wieland
Top: Quineesha Steele & LaCresha Linton
Middle: Ellie Phillis & Jordan Bowden
Bottom: Kelsie Matter & Ashley Ayala
Matters Here



Memories Matter Here

1. Emma Schneekloth 2. Alyssa Matejcek 3. Haley Dorman 4. Bailey VanDerGinst 5. Jordan Bowden 6. Rebecca VanSeveren 7. Adriana Blanco 8. Helena Smiley 9. Veda Rossi 10. Jasmine Ragusi 11. Erinnd Blanco 12. Brandon Richardson 13. Brett Livingston 14. Evan Morris 15. Cullen George 16. Kyndall Shaw 17. Quinton Holmes 18. Patrick Alongi 19. Phil Witmer 20. Justin Whitcomb 21. Anna Teggatz 22. Kyrstin Plohr 23. Alyssa Pool 24. Lexi Bragg 25. Hailey Jungjohann 26. Jeffery Hickman 27. Austin Simmer 28. Ashley Ayala 29. Allyson Boyle 30. Abby Williams 31. Nidia Villalpando 32. DayQwon Jones 33. CJ Carr 34. Stasi Jones 35. Jane Gray 36. Jacklyn Young 37. Kaitlyn Young 38. Jasmine Walker 39. Trey Sigel 40. Isabella KongKousonh 41. Gina Blair

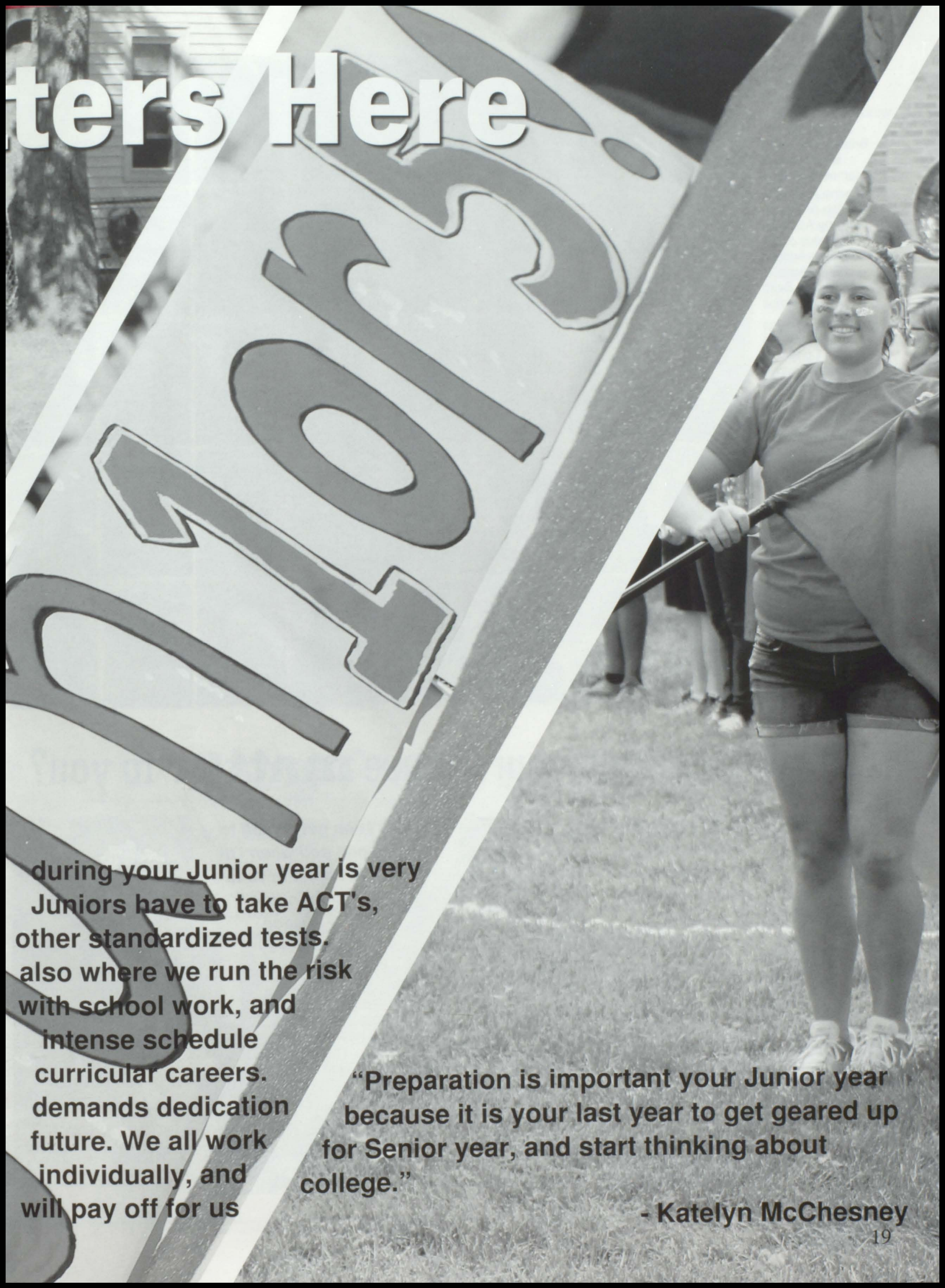
Preparation Ma

"Junior year is one of the most critical years of high school because of the ACT's, and starting to plan out the future. It's a lot of stress, but the more you are prepared for the future, the easier it will get later on." - Courtney Pearson

"Preparation is essential for surviving your Junior year because Senior year will be here before you know it, and then soon you'll be graduating, and heading off to college. The last thing anyone wants is to get behind, or look back and wish you studied harder, or prepared yourself better." - Morgan Twing

"Preparation crucial. We along with Junior year is of becoming lazy sometimes, with the of our sports or extra This year in our life for preparation for the hard, as a unit and in the long run, I know it all." - Mariah Anderson

ters Here



during your Junior year is very
Juniors have to take ACT's,
other standardized tests.
also where we run the risk
with school work, and
intense schedule
curricular careers.
demands dedication
future. We all work
individually, and
will pay off for us

"Preparation is important your Junior year because it is your last year to get geared up for Senior year, and start thinking about college."

- Katelyn McChesney

Isabell Aguilera
Kayli Ahuja
Chelsey Albert
Seth Albright
Hannah Allison
Brittany Anderson
Ivy Anderson
James Anderson
Katherine Anderson
Mariah Anderson
Anthony Andrews
Marcellus Angel
Ngenzebuhoro Aristide
Erika Atwater
Nickolas Baird
Sadie Barrios
Ethan Bayles
Brandi Bea
Corry Bell
Anniece Bennett
Jasmine Berhenke
Ryan Bisby
Breana Biswell
Jarmena Bloway
Nathan Bowers
Viola Bowser-Smith
Alishia Braden
Kaelan Bradley
Drew Briggs
Alexandra Brown
Gauge Brown
Shelby Burroughs
Thomas Bustard
Eh Ler Bwe
Jessica Byczynski
Adriana Cantu
Julisa Carapia
Riley Carlin
Carvinord Carr
Kathryn Carstens

Why does getting your license **matter** to you?

Q&A

"I have more freedom to go places without relying on other people."
- Taryn VanEarwage

"I can get myself to work, and when I'm off, I don't have to wait for a ride."
- Justice Humphrey

"I am able to do what I want on my own time."
- Braydyn Draper

"I like to drive around. It gives me 'me time.'"
- Jordan Carter

Jordan Carter
Logan Caviola
Raven Clemons
Joshua Cole-Brodnax
Ariel Craig
Briana Cross
Adriana Cruz
Ku Ku Dah

Taylor Danforth
Aliyah Davis
Joshua Davis
Devin Davison
Allison Debus
Nduwimana Deo
Zachary DeRoo
Taylor Derry

Morgan DeSmet
Emily DeWitt
Jose Diaz
Prince Dilworth
Linder Divos
Larry Dixon
Spirio Dixon
Jerramie Dodd

Antonio Donaldson
Devin Drake
Braydyn Draper
Mia Duarte
Kiana Dugger
Amber Durham
Kabura Eliyasi
Julie Elliott

Isaiah Ellis
Barret Embry
Logan Enstrom
Grant Fessler
Alyssa Fields
Assia Filali
Joshua Fleming
Abigail Ford

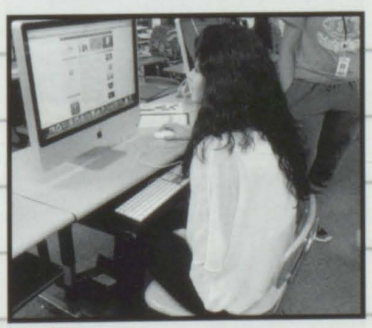
Being Prepared **Matters Here!**

Juniors tell what they plan to write their **BIG** research paper on.

Kiana Dugger

"I'm writing about Stem Cell research."

Breana Biswell



"I"m writing about assisted suicide."

Avery Hasselroth

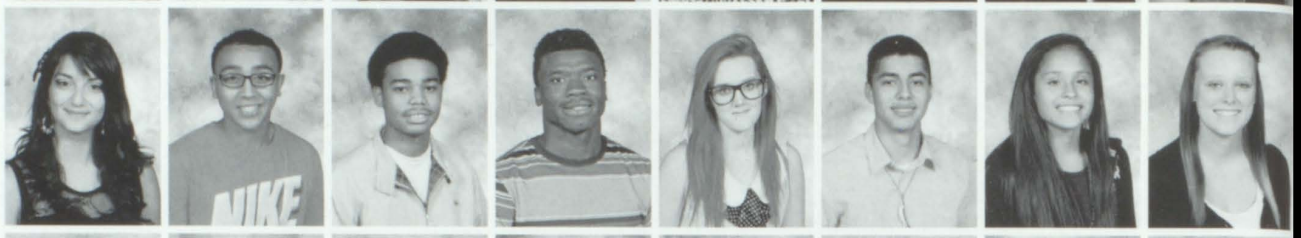
"I'm writing about Down Syndrome."

Sarah Willhite

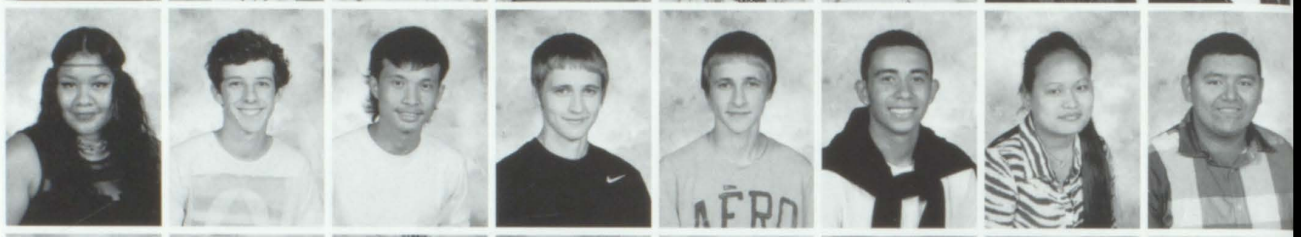
"I'm writing about abortion."

Griffin Fowler
Griffin Fowler
Skylar Frank
Cody Franks
Niyonizeye Fransine
Max Friestad
Shauntrice Gamble
Danielle Garcia

Guadalupe Garcia
Shawnta Gary
Nico Gay
Prince Gbeddeh
Rea Gengler
Omar Gomez
Victoria Gomez
Annabelle Gordan

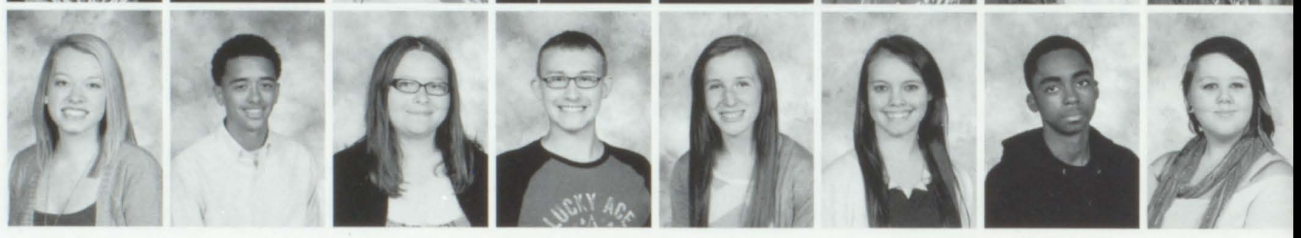


Heavenly Gore
Dylan Greko
Sha Gu
Joshua Gugelmeyer
Nicholas Gugelmeyer
Isaiah Gulick
Urmila Gurung
Ricardo Guzman

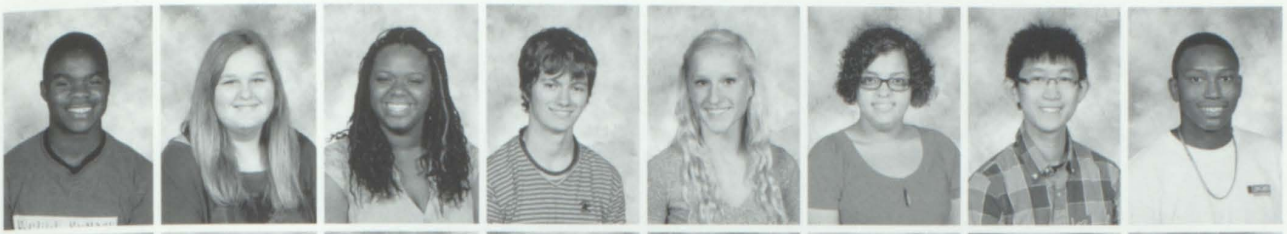


Tyler Hall
Keegan Hammond
Breshauna Harrington
Cole Harris
Cory Harris
Ryan Harris
Makayla Harrum
Katelyn Hart

Avery Hasselroth
Joshua Hathorn
Jennifer Hays
Damion Heimbeck
Bethany Henderson
Olivia Henning
Dayvion Henry
Mallory Herlein

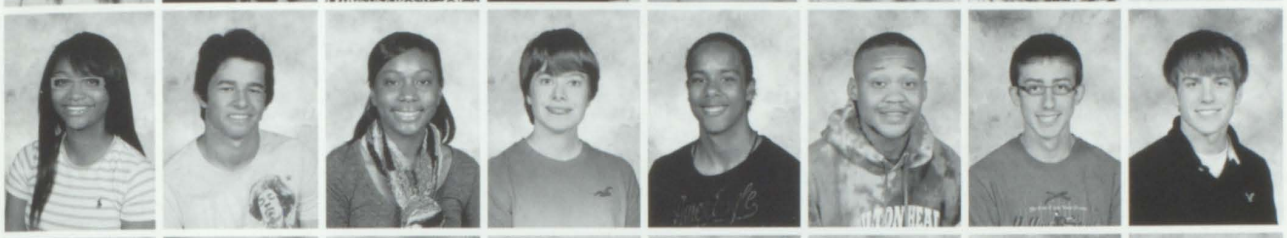


THE *Adventures* OF JUNIORS



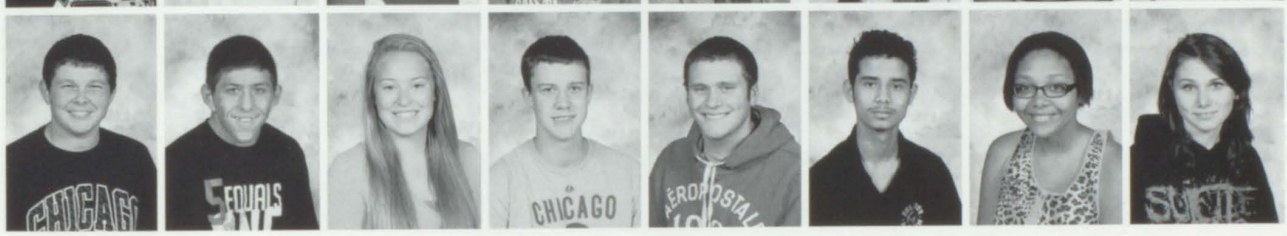
Ndayishimiye Heshima
Kaitlyn Hickerson
Juanita Hickman
Benjamin Hicock
Shelby Hodge
Lexus Hofmann-Baker
Ethan Hong
Isaiah Houston

Ser Nay Htee
Eh Doh Htoo
Mikhayla Hughes-Shaw
Jacob Huisman
Justice Humphrey
Addisen Hynd
Alexander Jackson
Alexus Jackson

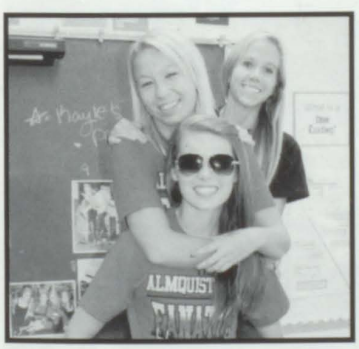


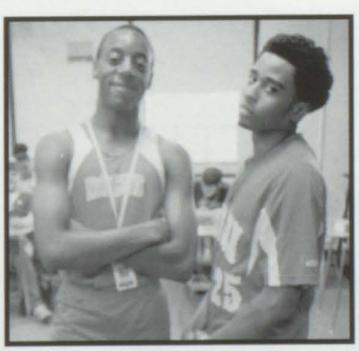
Mercedes Jackson
Nikolas Jacobs
JayNisha Jalloh
Devin James
Synika James II
Caulutan Jefferson
Kyle Johnson
Tanner Johnson

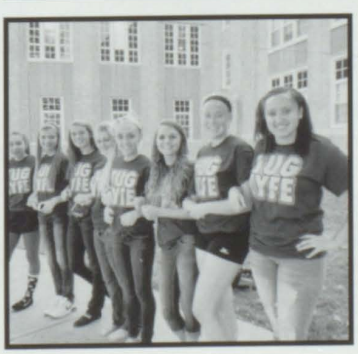
Francisca Jones
John Jones
Iradukunda Josephine
Justin Joway
Brittany Jungwirth
Leonita Kadriu
Elizabeth Kasimu
Kyla Katzenburger

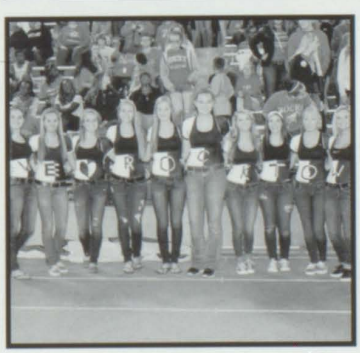


Shawn Keegan
Donavin Keim
Lindsey Kelley
Brett Kerno
Dalton Kettering
Sawrab Khadka
Brooklyn King
Haley Kinney









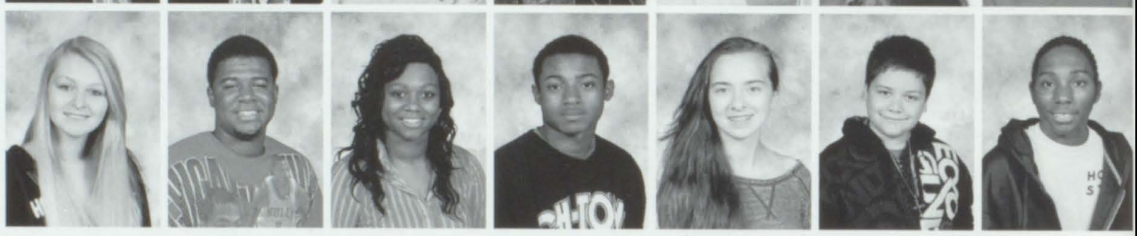
Shaunee Kirkpatrick
Nicholas Kirzeder
Makayla Knepp
Avery Koberstein
Ragay Lah
Michael Lam
Hannah Lambert
Christian Lannan

Alexander Lavery
Amber Lee
Austin Leonard
Emmanuel Lloyd
Justin Lobley
Honore Lopaka
Brian Lopez
Ethan Lopez

Sean Luckey
Lexys Magadan
John Mager
Muzehe James Manasse
Santiago Marceleno
Zahra Marhoon
Brenda Markham
Juan Martinez

Kaylea Matter
Jermain Mauricio
Nikkoli Mayfield
Ibrahim Mbanzamihigo
Torianna McCarty
Katelyn McChesney
Katelyn McClellan
Noah McClendon

Kasey McCracken
Corshaune McDuffy
Shyteria McDuffy
Aaron McElroy
Fiona McGrath Nagle
Thomas McKinley
Tawrence McMiller



ACT PREP....

The Junior Class voices their concerns for their big test.

"I'm really nervous because it decides what college I'm going to go to. I plan on studying a lot, that way I can do really well on it."

Breana Biswell

"It's a lot of pressure because you are expected to do exceptionally well in order to get accepted into a good college."

Kiana Dugger

"I think it is nerve wracking, but everyone gets through it."

Brittany Anderson

"I feel nervous about the ACT's because I think I won't do so well, but I'm also excited to take them so I can start to prepare myself for college."

Garry Bogguess

John McNeal
Cristian Mendez
Timesha Miles
Ariah Miller
Benjamin Miller
Jo'Meka Miller
Kayle Minear
Rajabu Mmende

Hser Gay Moo
Agustin Morales
Natalie Morales
Daniel Morris
Jessica Morrissey
Daizhiaughn Morrow
Brianna Mowery
Fashingoma Mugisha

Qadirah Muhammad
Molly Munson
Alicia Murphy
John Mutum
Cynthia Myers-Miles
James Naab
Abdu Ndayishimiye
Esau Ndikumana

Dakota Neaveill
Oshiana Nephew
Toby Nephew
Kelsey Nevarez-Ratliff
Taylor Neyens
Nicholas Schrock
Alyssa Nunes
Logan Oaks

Mwavita Odeta
Shane Ogden
Preston Orr
Tyree Overton
George Pappas
Veda Pardee
Angel Parker
Nicholas Parker

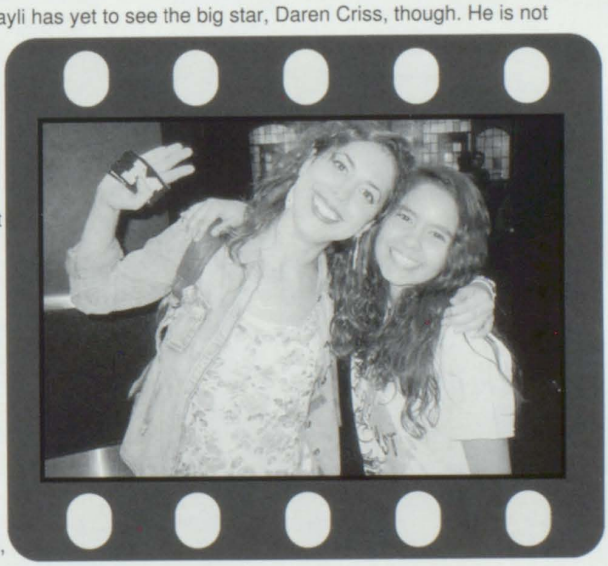
[#Fandoms]

In the past few years, fandoms have become a part of every little book, movie, and even politics. There is a "Doctor Who" fandom, "The Walking Dead" fandom, and even "The Directioners." There are literally fandoms for every book, movie, or music group. One fandom many have not heard of are the Starkids. Starkids is a group formed by former University of Michigan theatre students. They got their start when they posted their original play, "A Very Potter Musical" on YouTube. Soon, Starkids began to be viewed by hundreds of teens all around the world, and one of those viewers was Kayli Ahuja.

Kayli Ahuja found out about Starkids a few years ago when Starkid, Darren Criss started on *Glee*. Already a huge fan of Darren Criss, Kayli's sister introduced her to "A Very Potter Musical." Kayli immediately fell in love with Starkids, and wanted to see more. Kayli said, "I'm one of their biggest fans, but not a crazy fan." Kayli has actually gone to see some of the Starkids' performances, and even met members of the group. "I've met most of the Starkids that are in the Chicago area," says Kayli. "They are always so nice, and they care a lot about their fans." Kayli has yet to see the big star, Daren Criss, though. He is not as easy to see, as he is a part of the hit TV series, *Glee*.

Kayli is not the only one who loves Starkids. She has been to several conventions, and met other fans just as excited about the group as she is. Three of the fans she met are distant, but good friends who she can talk to about the new Starkid performances, since her friends here are not as crazy about it as she is. They all congregate on Twitter, and talk about the cast or the newest musicals. "This December, I might go see their newest musical, *The Moms*," says Kayli.

Kayli has found a fandom that she can talk about with great pride, and many others have found their fandoms, too. There is absolutely a fandom out there for everyone. If you like Justin Bieber, you can be a part of the Beliebers. There is even a fandom for Harry Potter called the Potterheads. If you even like a restaurant, there would surely be a fandom out there to join. Whatever your interest is, big or small, there is a fandom out there for it, ready for you to be a part of.



Right: Kayli with Starkid member, Meredith Stepien, after the "123Ever" sketch show in Chicago.

Ja'Meisha Parks
Eh Paw
Hsee Hso Paw
Ca'Shon Payton
Courtney Pearson
Isaac Pena
Dariyn Perez
Madelaine Perry

Lamarr Peterson
Tyler Peterson
Khaalliyah Phanhlathy
Natalie Phillips
ShaTerra Phillips
Harrison Phillis
Thaw Thee Po
Sean Pohl

Aaliyah Polk
Azpen Ponce
Hannah Price
Kevin Puga
Jazmiah Quinn
Allen Rachal
Alton Rachal
Jovany Ramirez

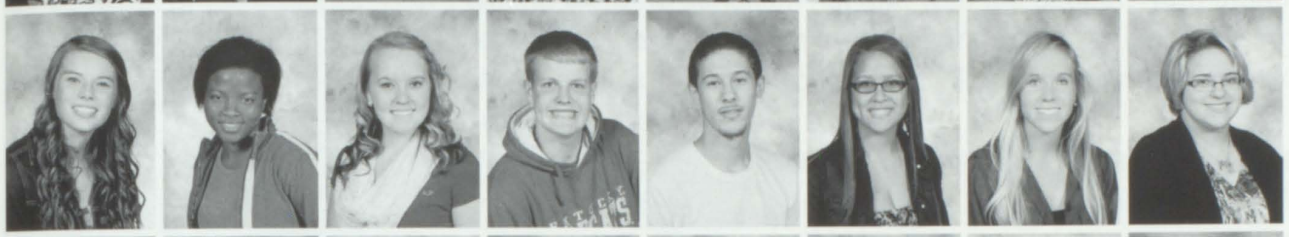
Kylie Ramsey-Moody
Khaliyah Randle
Emily Reed
Jawaun Reed
Kain Reed
Michael Regan
Joseph Rench
Chance Robbins

Brooke Roberts
Derrick Robertson
Anastasia Rodemeyer
Ariel Rodriguez
Hannah Rodriguez
Ashley Roland
Erik Rosales
Bryan Ross

JUNIORS ROCK

Andrew Rottman
Andrea Ruiz
Mikia Russell
Oscar Ruvalcaba
Anel Salinas Hernandez
Joshua Schaer
Kristopher Schmacht
Taylor Schneider

Joshua Schnitzer
Nickolas Schrock
Jamison Semla
Austin Shannon
Ashley Shesky
Jordan Sholl
Bukuru Shukurani
Soeren Sierck

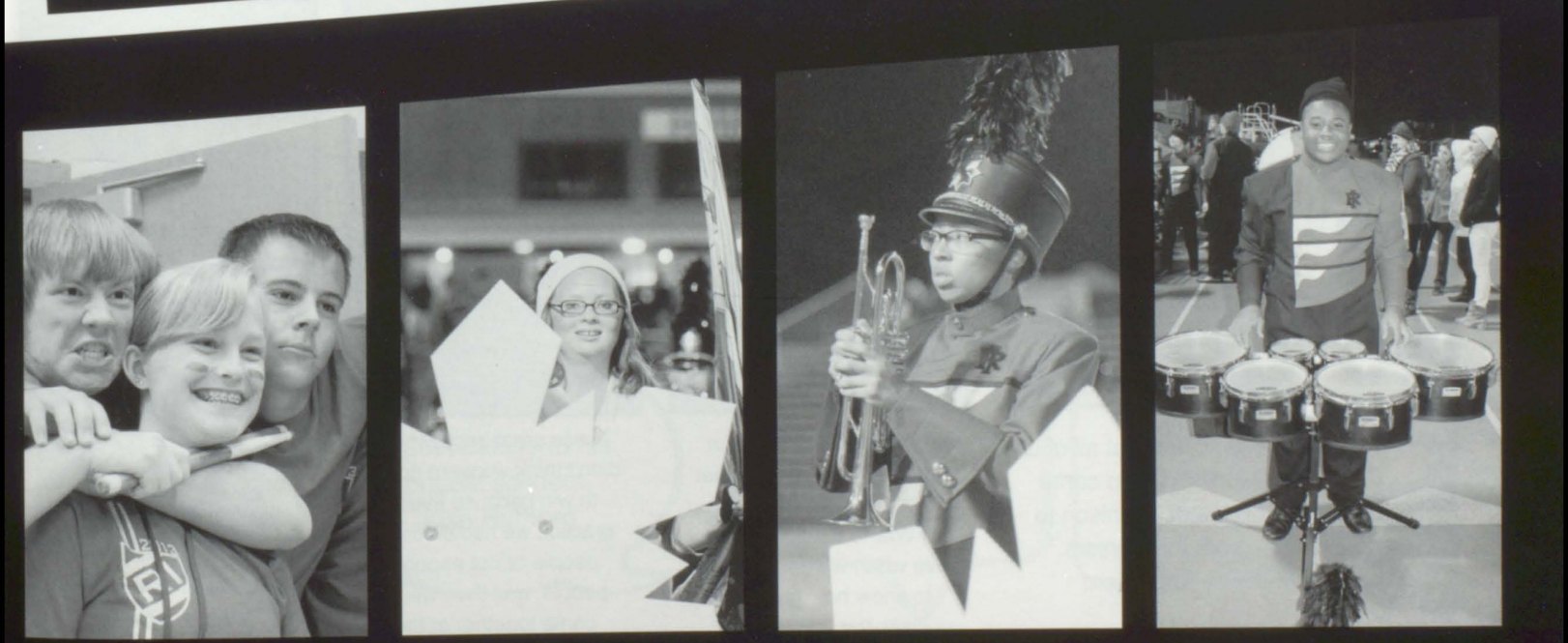


Lauren Simmer
Nyabenda Siwema
Ashley Six
Jordan Skelley
Caine Smith
Cierra Smith
Courtney Smith
Madison Smith

Sierra Smith
Mark Snyder-Truitt
Sara Solis
Alexander Spragg
Colleen Stablein
Caleb Starks
Haleigh Stegall
Lindsey Steger

Emma Stephenson
Lain Stocke
Samuel Stone
Taija Stoner-Harris
Paw Tar Su
Gareth Sutter
Matthew Sweeney
Alaura Tallman

IN MARCHING BAND

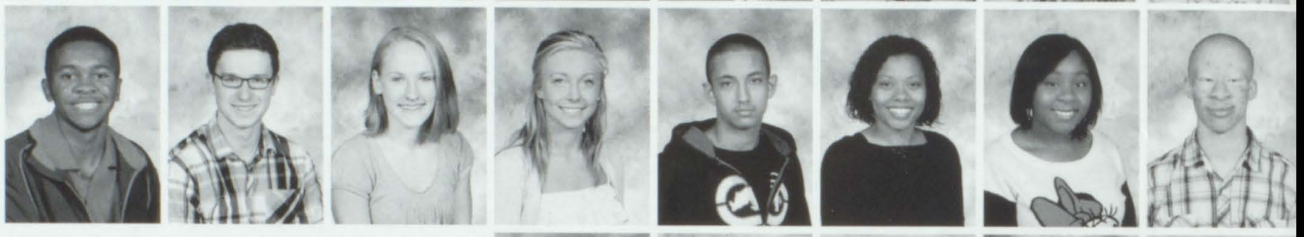


Madison Tapia
Jacqueline Tate
Edwin Taylor
Merkeb Mebrahtu
Teklemariam
Delina Tesfamichael
Sengiyumva Thiery
Molly Thompson
Rebecca Thomson

Eric Thorson
Sean Tittle
Kimberly Torres
Omar Torres
Odalys Trigueros
Monee' Turner
Morgan Twing
Jeanee D'arc Uwamahoro

Josephine Uzamukunda
Ninkiza Vailete
Taryn VanEarwage
Tyler VanWinkle
Christian Vasquez
Michael Vinar
Kayla Voss
Meghan Wells

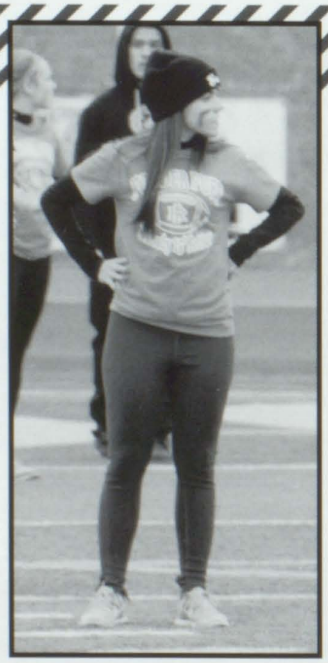
D'Angelo West
Edward Westmorland
Mikayla Weyers
Sarah Willhite
Brian Williams
Jordan Williams
Shaniece Williams
Robert Winters-Bland



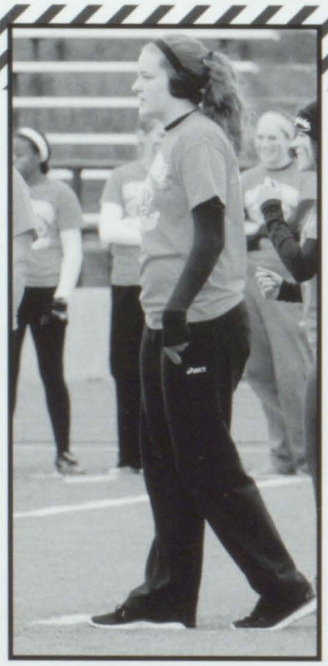
Azariah Young
Shawndrea Young
McKenzie Zambrano
Dean Zeglin
Kaitlyn Zeltner

VICTORY

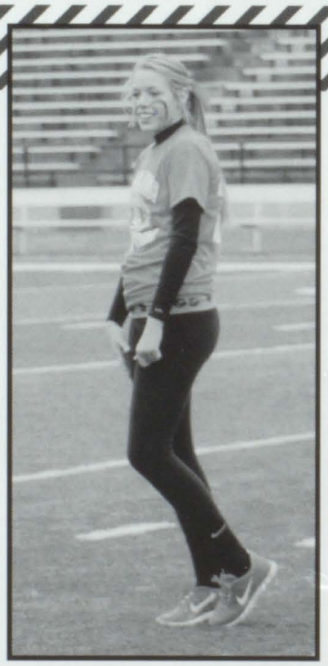
JUNIOR



"It felt good that all of us Juniors could come together in unison to beat the Seniors."
- Abby Ford



"Beating the Seniors in Powder Puff was a sweet victory since we lost in Tug of War to them. Also, we love when we get a chance to show how great of a class the Juniors are."
- Lindsey Steger



"It was great because we didn't think we were going to win because every practice we had different people or not enough people, and then we all came together at the game!"
- Taylor Derry

"It was a good feeling because we won with little preparation and organizing, and we came out as champions!"
- Angel Parker

Training for JUNIOR NATIONALS

Matters Here

The saying, "Hard work pays off" could be junior swimmer, George Pappas's life motto. George has been swimming for most of his life. After many months in the pool for training, extreme conditioning, and with the support from friends and family, he has accomplished a long term goal of going to Junior Nationals, a meet that requires a qualifying time for people under 18. Athletes all over the country train countless months for this meet.

This will be George's first time competing in this meet. "'I'm really excited to see all the fast swimmers from all over the country, and to talk with colleges," states Pappas. George's biggest goal is to get onto a college team that will help him reach his potential in his swimming career. "I plan on working hard in school and swimming to get me there," George says.

Junior, Hannah Rodriguez also has a brother who will be in this meet. "It's one of the biggest swim meets colleges look at that will make you go places in your swimming," Rodriguez explains. Hannah also knows George very well, stating, "I've been swimming with George for around 6 years now, and he's such a good person that it's cool to see how impressive of a swimmer he's become."

George will continue to work towards his goals of swimming beyond the Rock. He plans on swimming in the Junior Nationals meet this March.

Words of Wisdom From the Junior Class

"Hakuna Matata."
- Ashley Roland

"Stay positive even when times get rough."
- Abby Ford

"Have character- don't be one."
- Alyssa Meincke

"Tomorrow is a new day, no matter how bad yesterday was."
- Taylor Derry

"Don't stress the could haves. If it should have, it would have."
- Taylor Neyens

"Loomsha: It means everything will be good in the world."
- Marcellus Angel

"God gives his hardest battles to his strongest soliders."
- Josh Hathorn

"Champions are made when no one is watching."
- Morgan Twing

"When I get sad, I stop being sad, and be awesome instead."
- Jessica Byczynski

JUNIOR ROLE MODELS

"Mrs. Greenwood goes above and beyond to make sure all of her students know that there is at least one person in the school who is there for them." - Jessica Byczynski

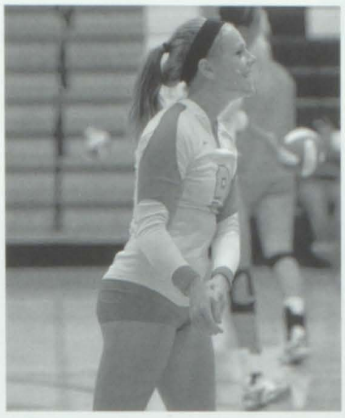
"No matter what, Ellie Phillis always has something encouraging to say, for everyone!"
- Brittany Anderson

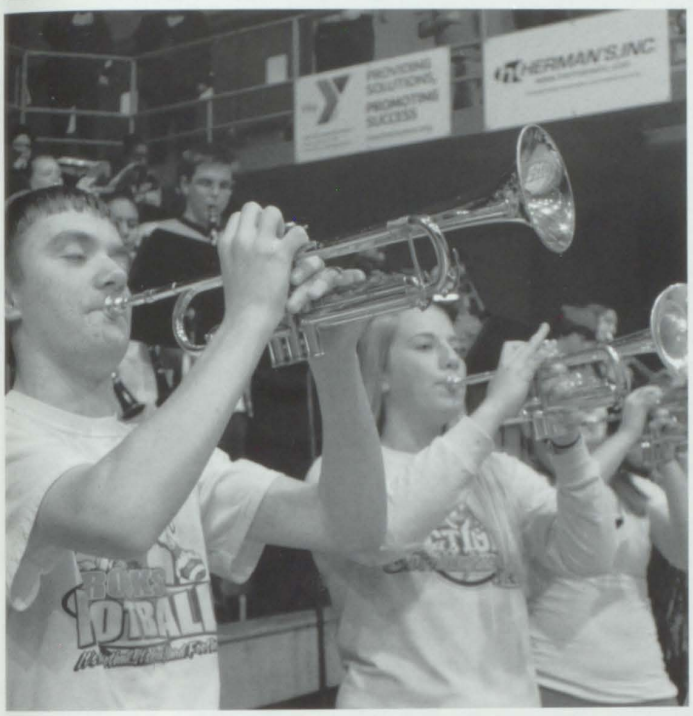
"Even on a bad day, I know I can talk to Mrs. Harms, and even if she can't do anything about it, she makes me feel better."
- Fiona McGrath Nagle

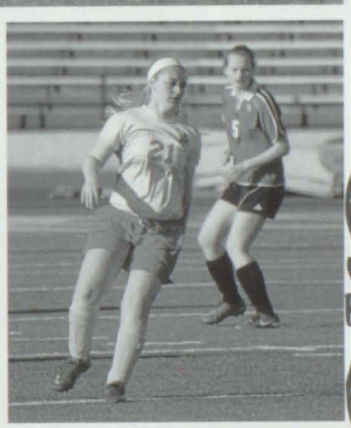
"Mrs. Taylor goes out of her way to make sure that everyone has what they need."
- Mikhayla Hughes-Shaw

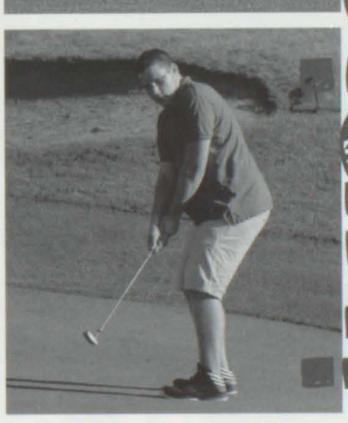
#JuniorYear #Hashtags

1. "So many new #opportunities in junior year. #Rewarding." - Brittany Anderson
2. "Junior year has made me more ready for college, and starting my future. #Goingplaces." - Ana Rodemeyer
3. "Junior year has been #inspiring." - Alex Lavery
4. "Junior year was #exciting, and gave me plenty of #rewardingopportunities." - JayNisha Jalloh
5. "Junior year has made me more outgoing. #Confidence." - Meghan Wells

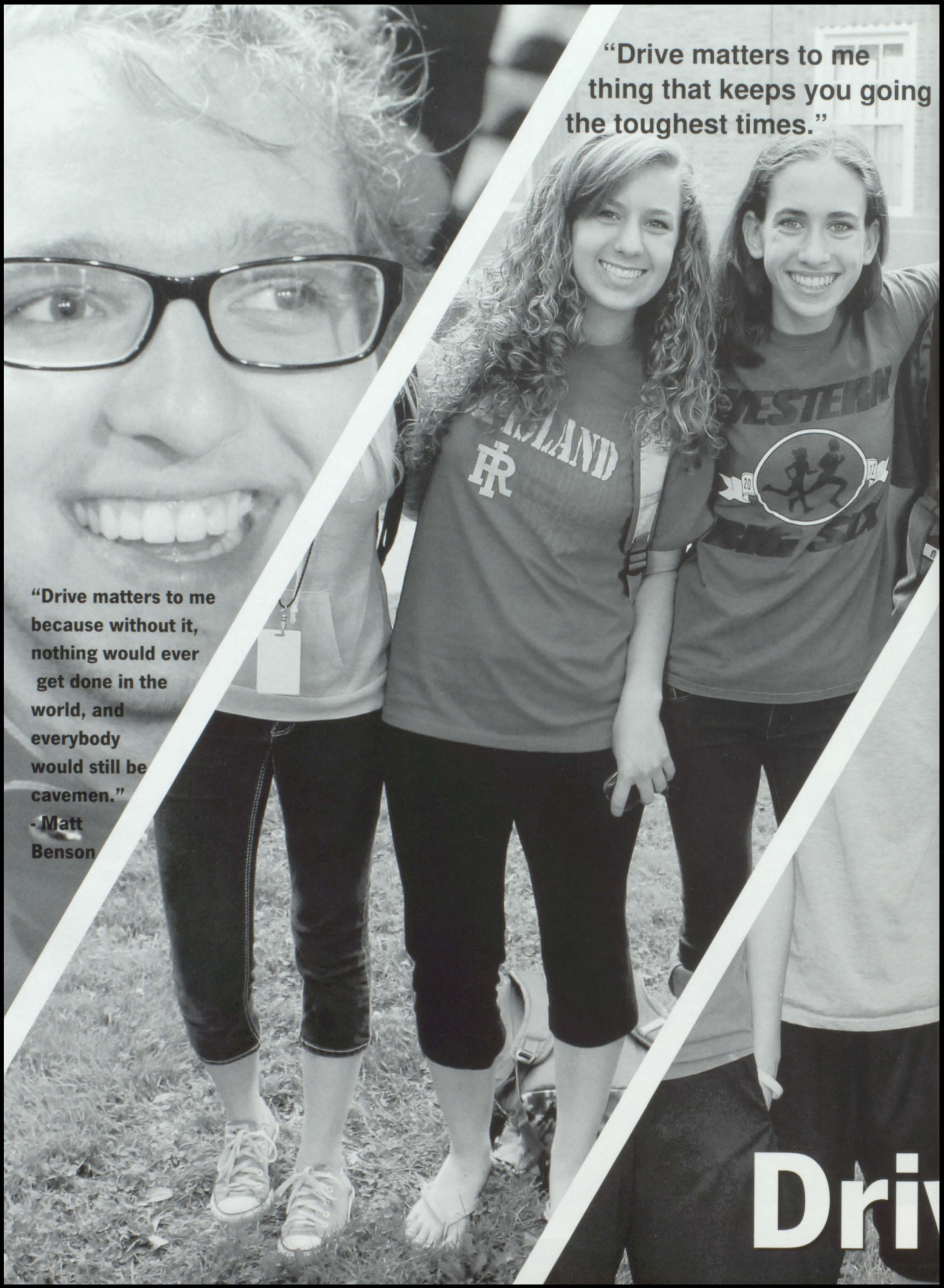


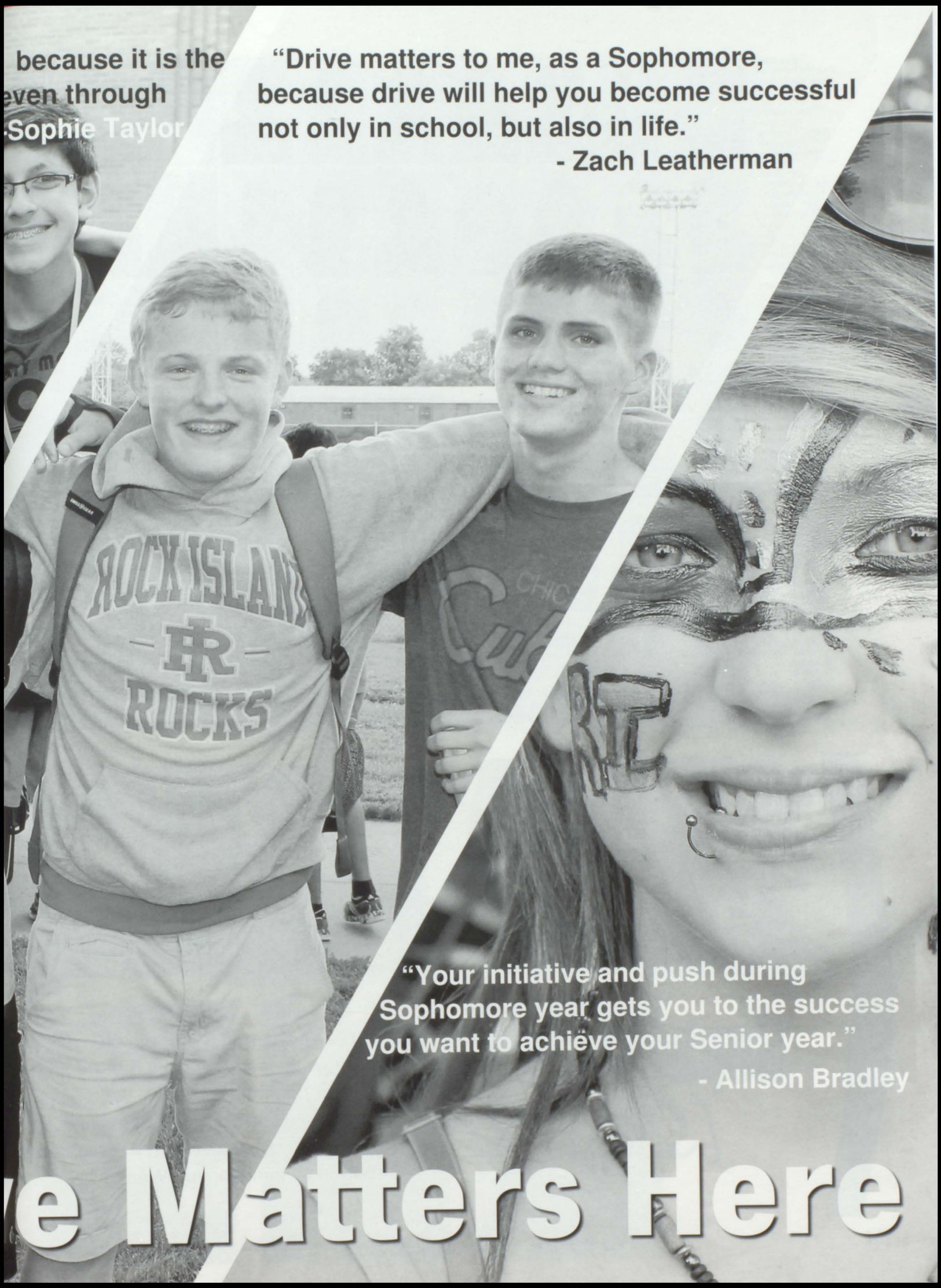






sports


"Drive matters to me
thing that keeps you going
the toughest times."
"Drive matters to me because without it, nothing would ever get done in the world, and everybody would still be cavemen."
- Matt Benson
Driv


because it is the
even through
Sophie Taylor
"Drive matters to me, as a Sophomore, because drive will help you become successful not only in school, but also in life."
- Zach Leatherman
ROCK ISLAND
ROCKS
"Your initiative and push during Sophomore year gets you to the success you want to achieve your Senior year."
- Allison Bradley
e Matters Here

Jacob Abell
Christine Ackerland
Atong Ayuen Agok
Timothy Agy
Kabura Alex
Maombi Alice
Jacob Allen
Giovanni Almanza
Sabrina Alt
Ana Alva Perez

Jada Alviso
Alexandra Anderson
Annika Anderson
Jami Anderson
Travarai Angel
Kianna Arnold
Javionte Arrington
Michael Ashford
Adrion Ater
Jake Aunan

Dante Austin
Tiana Austin
Kaleb Awalt
Agok Ayuen
Te'ya Baker
Mario Barajas
Davon Barber
Cody Barker
Jesus Barrera
Dabria Beason

Nathaniel Becker
Samantha Beckhart
Jakob Beierlein
Pablo Beltran
Andres Bennett-Terronez
Jacob Benson
Matthew Benson
Sade Berryman
Mahala Blair
Dalton Bohlander

James Booker
Allison Bradley
Mya Bragg
Jacarri Bragg-Rhoden
Marcus Branch
Austin Braud
Katherine Brune
Bryan Burden
Brandon Burton
Alyssa Butler

Adam Cady
Kathryn Calhoun
Alexander Campbell
Blake Cantrill
Maria Castaneda
Rayce Chandler
Tayveon Chandler
Alena Chavez
Birkha Bahadur Chhetri
Kaylee Chiavario

Sophomore [Spirit]

During students' sophomore year, they have the opportunity to show their school spirit in a way they might not have during their freshman year. They have a better understanding of Rocky pride, and have the confidence to show their crazy costumes all throughout Homecoming Week.

Seth Clark
Alonzo Cole
Hope Collins
Kaliya Colvin
Jordan Cooke
Tiffany Coss
Taniya Craig
Emily Crapnell
Braxton Crawford
Nathan Crowder

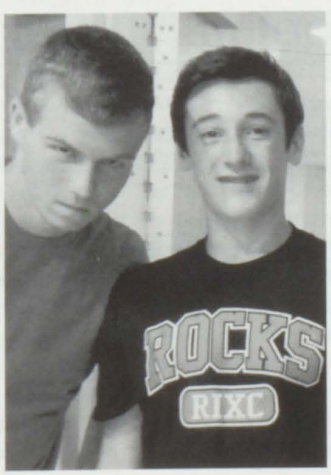
Heaven Cunningham
Thi Dang
Allyson Daniel
Stephany Davalos
DeShaun Davis
Selena Davis
Awilda De Jesus
Rachel Dennhardt
Austin DeSmet
Colton DeSmet

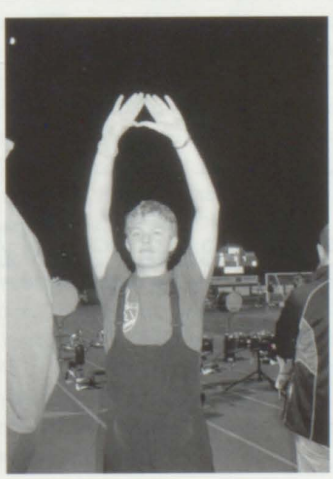
Chelsea Dewith
Ni Dong
Mikayla Draper
Mercedes Drummond
Kelsie Dyke
Emily Edgington
Terrence Edwards
Christian Eggers
Iesha Eggleston
Da Eh

Rayshaun Ellis
Eric Ely
Ayabagabo Emmanuel
Kathryn Erickson
Noah Etter
Eboni Evans
Tahtiana Evans
Lareina Farrington
Shawn Feddersen
Martin Fiedler

Maria Figueroa
Jade Findlay
Anthony Flaherty
Austin Fletcher
Irakoze Floribert
Margaret Flowers
Tyus Forbes
Skye Fordham
Michael Foulks
Adrianna Garcia

Isabel Garcia
Natali Garcia
Selina Garcia
Julia Garrison
Bailey Gaskin
McKenna Gates
July Lar Khu Gay
Pharaoh Gay
Dawa Ghising
Kira Glenn-Rangel





Maricsa Gomez
Melissa Gomez-Lopez
Emilda Gonzalez
Hanna Gordon
Chloe Gosa
Zachary Gray
Gabrial Gray-Schnitzer
Cameron Green
Spencer Green
Taylor Greko

Jason Griego
Nathaniel Gustafson
Aidee Gutierrez
Dora Gutierrez
Fatima Guzman
Amira Habona
Benjamin Habonimana
Melissa Hagerty
Betty Hall
Kyra Hamilton

Ashley Hanson
Samantha Hanson
Taryn Hanson
Brianna Hart
Brooke Hart
Dylan Hart
Meagan Hawotte
Bailey Hermann
Alexis Hernandez
Arely Danahe Hernandez

Limon Hernandez
Marilyn Herrera
Brooke Hickenbottom
DeAnthony Hickman
SaraNisha Hickman
Tylynn Hickman
Ravay Hickman-Parks
D'Angelo Hicks
Kelcey Hicks
Kathlyn Hill

Nadia Hill
Margaret Hinton
Chad Hipkins
Tial Iang Hlei
Malik Hockaday
Dominique Holland
Tyler Honts
Mariah Hoover
Myranda Horton
Evaline Housley

Eh Lay Htoo
Kim Huff
Hope Hughes
Jasmine Hulbert
Bryce Humphrey
Casey Hupton
Sierra Hurt
Brandon Inman
Sarah Israel
Alize Ivy

Who matters on *Vine*?

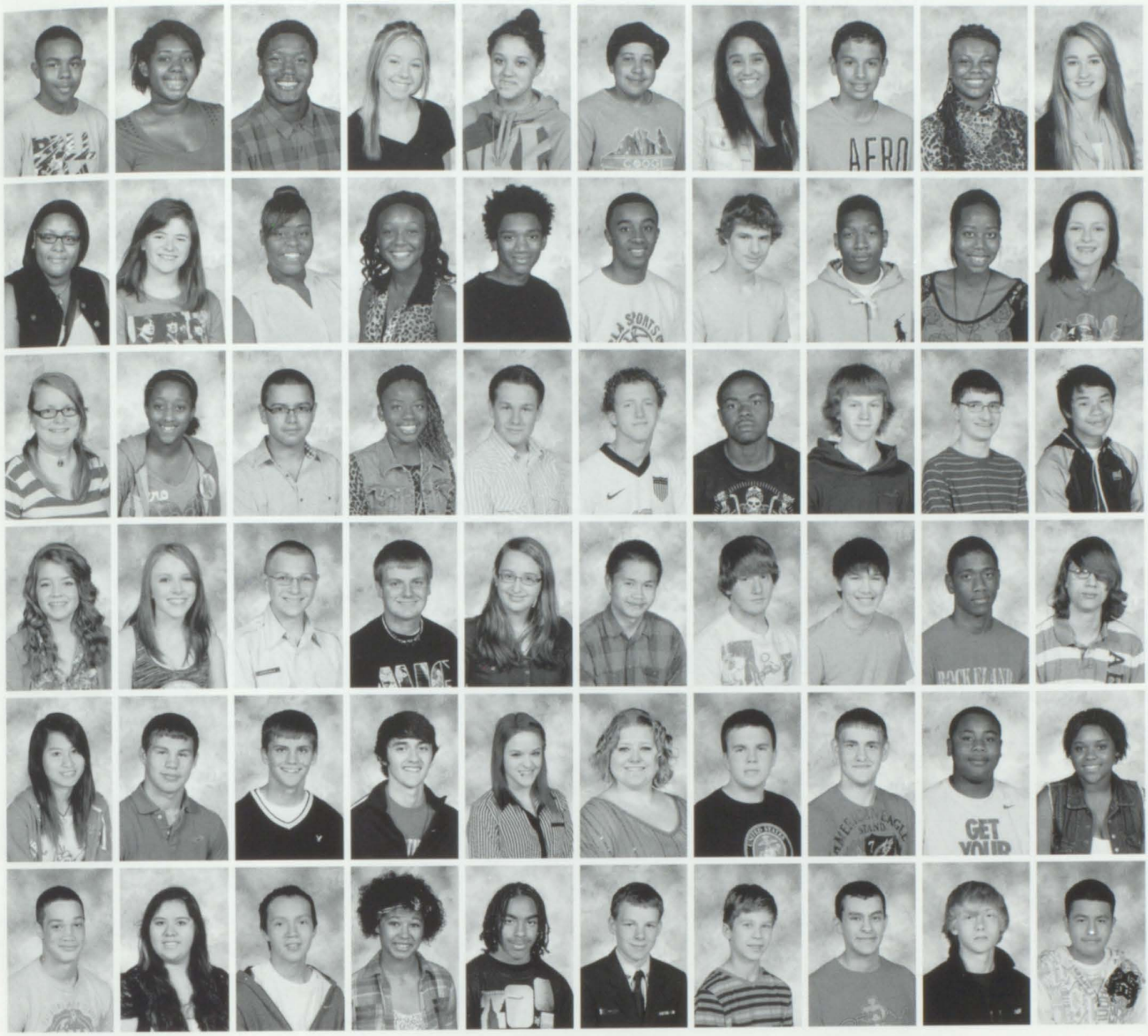
Sophomores explain who they like to watch on the famous social network.

"Terio" - Zach Leatherman

"Lizzza" - Kira Rangel

"Bat Dad" - Jakob Beierlein

"Evancredible" - Zach Gray



Troy Jack
Alana Jackson
Daveonta Jackson
Kelsey Jackson
Payton Jackson
Chase Janes
Alexxis Johnson
Devon Johnson
Dheaven Johnson
Iris Johnson

Kaniya Johnson
Samantha Johnson
Jada Jones
JaNiah Jones
JaQuan Jones
Jason Jones
Matthew Jones
Victor Jones
Muna Juma
Keely Karzin

Andrea Katzenberger
A'Naya Kelley
David Kendall
Clever Kenese
Cameron Kennedy
Samuel Kennedy
Samuel Byabele Kimba
Logan Kinder
Alec Klapperich
Eh Klay

Annika Knudsen
Corinne Koopman
David Korthals
Cade Kosche
Shelby Krug
Ku Ku
Jonah Lambert
Samuel Langston
Kevin Lard
Elijah Lavine

Tathaynaw Laweh
Dalton Lawver
Zachary Leatherman
Michael Leihsing
Brittany Lesley
Summer Lindley
Jacob Lipe
Trevor Livengood
Ishmire Lloyde
Monicia Logan

Shaylan Loomis-Lucas
Amber Lopez
Magdaleno Lopez
Sierra Lovett
KayViion Lue
Matthew Lutz
Brenden MacDonald
Kurgan Macias
Quentin Manary
Miguel Marceleno

Turning Up

The Jakob Beierlein Experience

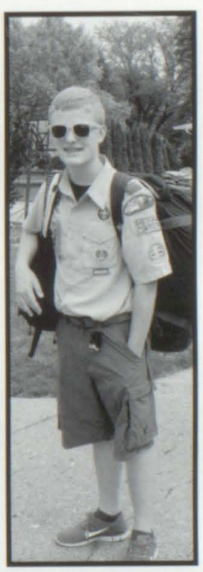
Besides academics, extracurriculars are one of the most important aspects of a student's life, and if someone was to look at Jakob Beierlein, they probably wouldn't be able to guess everything he's involved in. As an active member of the Rock Island High School Band Program, Drama Club, and Boy Scouts, Beierlein has a ridiculously busy schedule.

The fall was definitely the busiest time of the year for Beierlein. "Every morning, I get up at exactly 6:52. I do my homework when I get to school. For band, seventh period, we almost always went outside. Then, I went to play practice after school until 5:30. Then, I would have my parents bring me food, like Taco Bell (my favorite), and then, I would put on my bass drum, and go back to band," Beierlein says. He practically lives at school!

Now that the marching band season is done for the year, and the fall play is over, Beierlein has a little extra time on his hands. His extra time is focused on Boy Scouts, working on his project for his Eagle Award, the highest rank in the Boy Scouts of America. His project will be to build shelves in the tuba area of the band room, for storing electrical equipment. Now that he finally has time to work on his project, he thinks he should get it done by Spring Break. "Other kids in Boy Scouts tell me they want to quit because it isn't fun, and I say 'Well, you're just not making it fun'," Beierlein explains. "I've been in Boy Scouts for as long as I can remember, and the reason I kept up with it is because it's fun!" He tells everyone to give extracurriculars a chance, even his brother, who he told to stay in marching band.

"I used to be a lot more involved," Beierlein admits. "I want to be able to do everything, but I had to pick what I was best at, and just stick with those." This year, especially, has been a good year with Drama Club for Beierlein. He was a major character in *Berenice*, in the fall play about Edgar Allan Poe stories, and stunned the audience. "Beierlein is very different this year than last year. He knows when things have to get done. He is extremely focused, and really enjoys his roles," says Drama Club advisor, Mrs. Dorian Foster. "Dramatic Beierlein versus comic Beierlein is also very different. This makes moments with him often indescribable. In one word, he can be described as a 'firework.' It's not about the experiences with Beierlein. It's about 'The Jakob Beierlein Experience'."

Being so involved has definitely shaped Beierlein's life. "My favorite part about being involved is the people. If it wasn't for all the friends I've made, I don't know who I would be, or who I would hang out with," he says. As for the future in all his activities, he knows he has to work hard to achieve his goals. He hopes to accomplish the Eagle Award, to be the Marching Band's Drumline Section Leader, and to have a lead role in a play or musical at Rock Island High School. If anything, Jakob Beierlein is a prime example of how being involved, putting oneself out there, and practicing responsibility can really change a student's life for the better.



Stephanie Marceleno
Christopher Marquez
Michael Martin
Erika Martinez
Janette Mashimango
Aldair Matias
Lebon Mauwa
Ellis McArthur
Owen McClendon
Katelyn McCullough

Jonesha McCurine
Katie McDonald
Corinne McDowell
Virgie McGhee
Diamond McGowan
Alyssa McKinley
Andre McKinney
Gavin McLeod
Asia McMeans
Keyasia McNeal

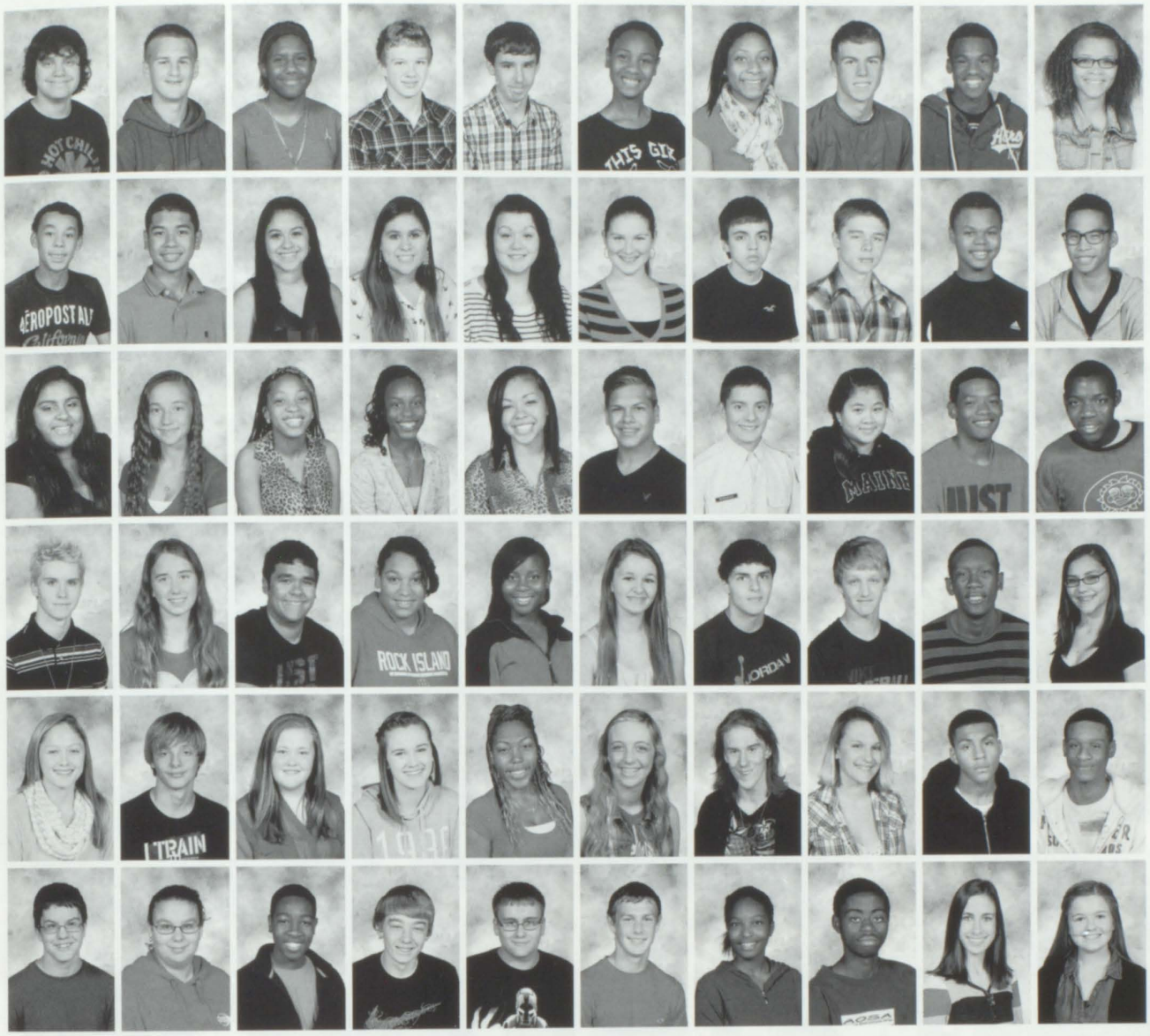
Marshauna McQueen
Daniela Mendoza
David Mendoza
Monica Meza-Pena
Mitchell Milani
William Miles
Marcus Miller
Paullisa Milton
Kristina Mohr
Lay Lay Moo

Elizabeth Moore
Ivana Morales
Karrie Moran
Asya Morrison
Tervaurus Morrow
Aleja Mueck
Lindsay Mumma
Shamus Murphy
Jaed Muskeyvalley
Michaela Nash

Deniza Ndihokubwayo
Isabella Ndikumwenimana
David Nduwikunda
Skyler Neal
Ryley Nelan
Hunter Nesbitt
Ahlee Nettles
Cornelius Neville
Kiersten Nichols
TreMone Nimmers

Bryce Norrie
Grace Nyirantumirwa
Kaitlyn O'Brien
Tiana O'Leary
Jami Oaks
DarVione Ollie
Andrew Orr
Bukuru Pacific
Butoyi Patience
Alexis Pearce

Sophomore Athletes



Alec Penn
Joshua Pepping
Arionna Pitchford
John Ponsetto
Nico Posateri
Ayana Powell
Kaniya Price-Sysompheng
Connor Purvis
Nashun Quick Cotton
Alsha Rachal

Darien Ramsdale
Json Rangel
Leslie Rangel
Michelle Rangel
Tori Rapp
Destiny Rasmussen
Pablo Raya
Robert Richards
Nathaniel Richardson
Derick Riesebiter

Eriana Rivera-Cummings
Samantha Roberge
Diamond Robertson
T'Nauzhae Robinson
Jade Rodriguez
Luis Rodriguez
Quinton Rodriguez
Ma Roseter
Breon Ruiz
Niyimbona Salvator

Bowen Sanders
Meredith Sanders
Ryan Sandoval
Jasman Schavers
Kwizera Sela
Kimberly Senatra
Christian Sepulveda
Tyler Shannon
Jonathan Shizirungu
Kylee Sierra-Spurgetis

Haley Sigel
Austin Sims
Lydia Skelton
Alexis Skinner
Roneisha Slater
Paige Smith
Ricky Smith
Shatana Smith
Trenton Smith
Tromaine Smith

Jacob Sneade
Kathryn Snodgrass
Joshua Sonnier
Conner Stablein
Shaun Stahl
Chandler Steele
Teanna Steward
Adam Stire
Sara Stockdale
Mackenzie Stone

Change *Matters Here*

If it weren't for the Pride of Rock Island Marching Band getting new uniforms this year, new sophomore drum major Connor Purvis would have had to bust out a tuxedo as his uniform. Connor came in as a low brass player his freshman year, and knew from the beginning that he wanted to be a drum major the following year. "I knew it was something I wanted to do after watching the previous drum majors lead the band. I wanted to be a leader, so I signed up," says Connor. The only obstacle Connor faced was the fact that there hasn't been a male drum major in the past decade. "I wanted to be the change for this band. I wanted to take action and be responsible," says Connor. In drum major training, he caught on easily. He said, "When I found out that I had made it, I was more excited and speechless than I was scared." With being a drum major, there is more responsibility. Drum majors lead the band, and conduct the band as they play. "My favorite memory from this season was making finals at our last competition," says Connor. It was the first time the band has made finals at a band competition. "When we got off the field from performing, Jenn called us down from attention, and everyone started cheering, hugging, and crying." It's obvious Connor loves being a drum major. For the future, Connor sees the band getting better and better, working harder, and making great memories. Connor worked hard to get to where he is, even with the odds against him. "If you want something, just go for it and do your best. You have nothing to lose, and just trying is worth it in the end. Even if it doesn't work out, it's not the end of the world. Just keep going, just keep trying," he advises. Connor Purvis proves that change can lead to great achievements.

Mah Sung
Tial Hnem Sung
Noelle Swisher
Hannah Taber
Daria Taylor
Daysha Taylor
Kyle Taylor
Sophie Taylor
Royal Terry
Rosang Tha

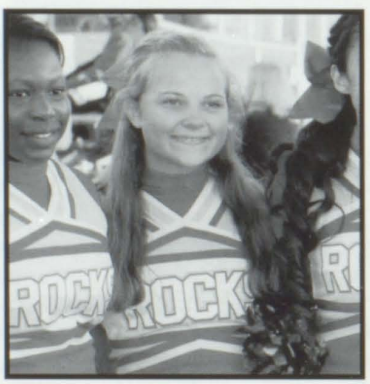
Sah Hay Tha
Deondre Thompson
Dakota Thornton
Ndungo Tosha
Nadia Trice
Bucumi Tumaini
Sae Tun
Nicole Tyulpa
Evan Umphrey
Allison VanSeveren

Ana Veronda
Payson Verstraete
Robert Wakeland
Amari Walker
Dade Walters
Ian Washam
Domingo Wellington
Jason Wells
LaKinda West
Phillip Whaley

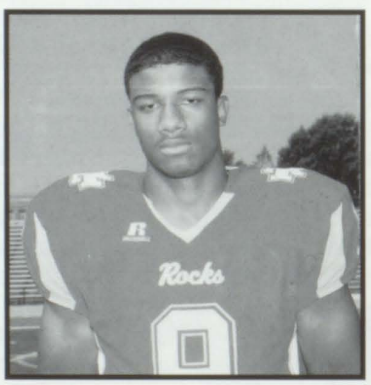
Cameron Wheatley
Evan Wignall
Keenan Wilhelm
Hannah Willhite
Destiny Williams
Israel Williams
Markyia Williams-Miles
Brandon Williamson
Chantal Wilmington
Douglas Wilson

Haley Wilson
Victoria Witmer
Tahje Worthey
Brianna Wright
Mercy Wrotoe
Saye Zulu
Darrin Sierra

Scary Moments in Drivers Ed.

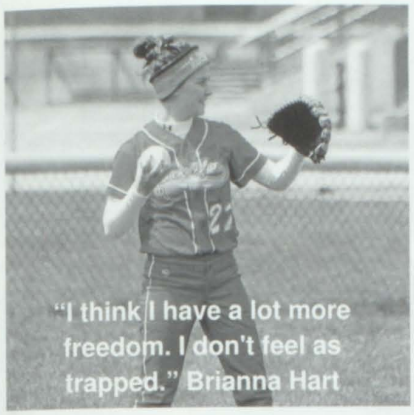


"Almost doing a curb check!"
- Victoria Witmer

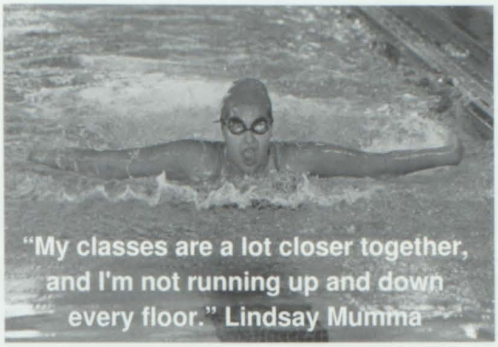


"Having Coach Joe as a teacher."
- Douglas Wilson

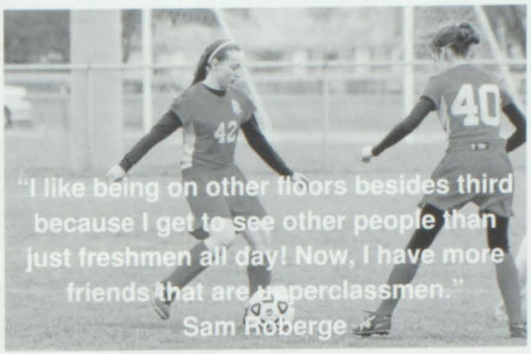
"Stopping at the last minute!"
- Sam Roberge



"I think I have a lot more freedom. I don't feel as trapped." Brianna Hart



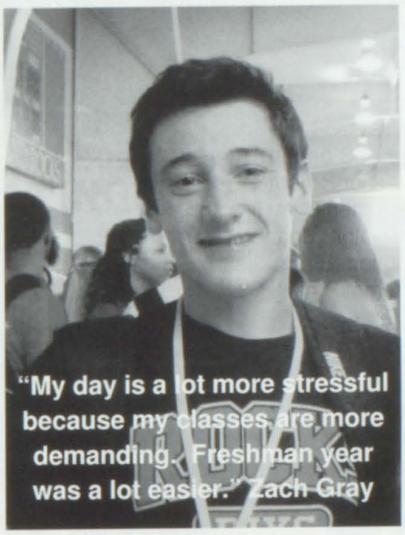
"My classes are a lot closer together, and I'm not running up and down every floor." Lindsay Mumma



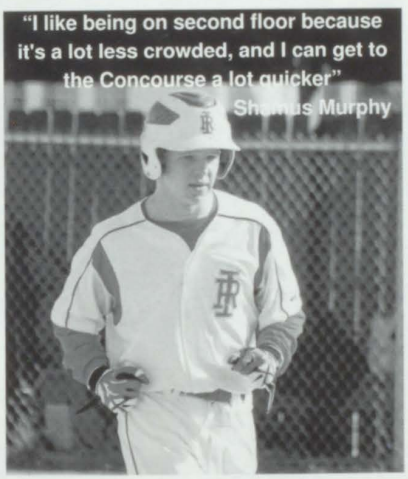
"I like being on other floors besides third because I get to see other people than just freshmen all day! Now, I have more friends that are upperclassmen." Sam Roberge

Life Past Third Floor

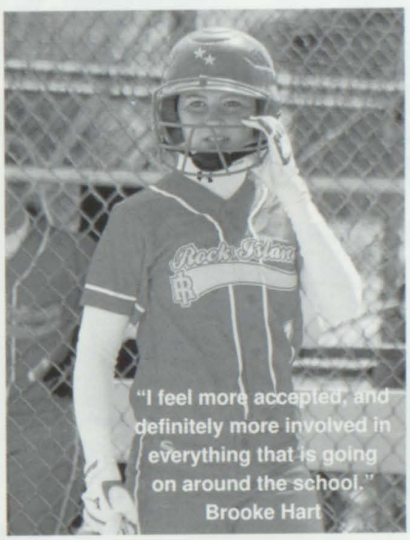
"The best part about not being a freshman is not having to go all the way to third floor every morning to get to my locker. It's also really crowded." Brooke Hickenbottom



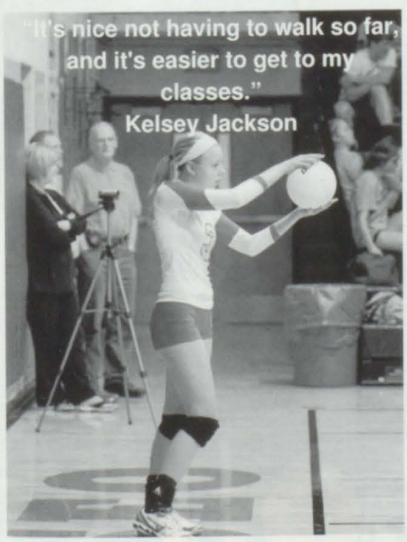
"My day is a lot more stressful because my classes are more demanding. Freshman year was a lot easier." Zach Gray



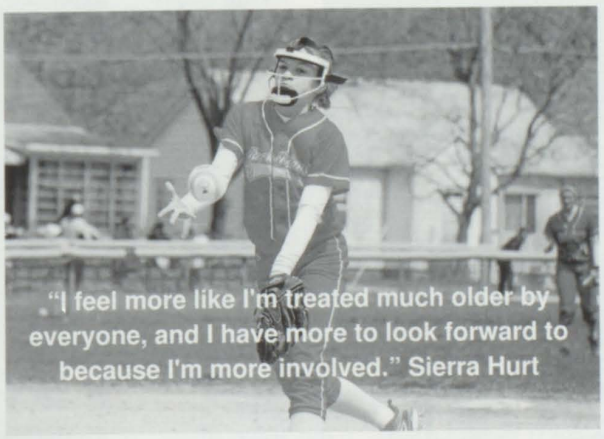
"I like being on second floor because it's a lot less crowded, and I can get to the Concourse a lot quicker" Shamus Murphy



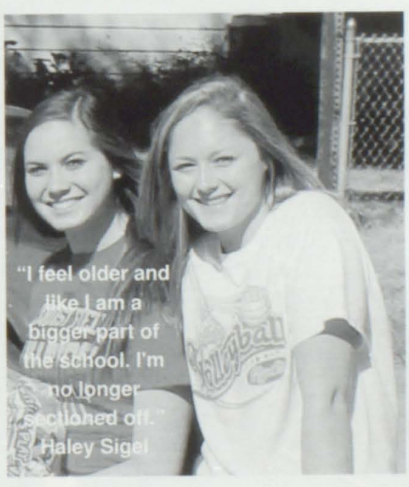
"I feel more accepted, and definitely more involved in everything that is going on around the school." Brooke Hart



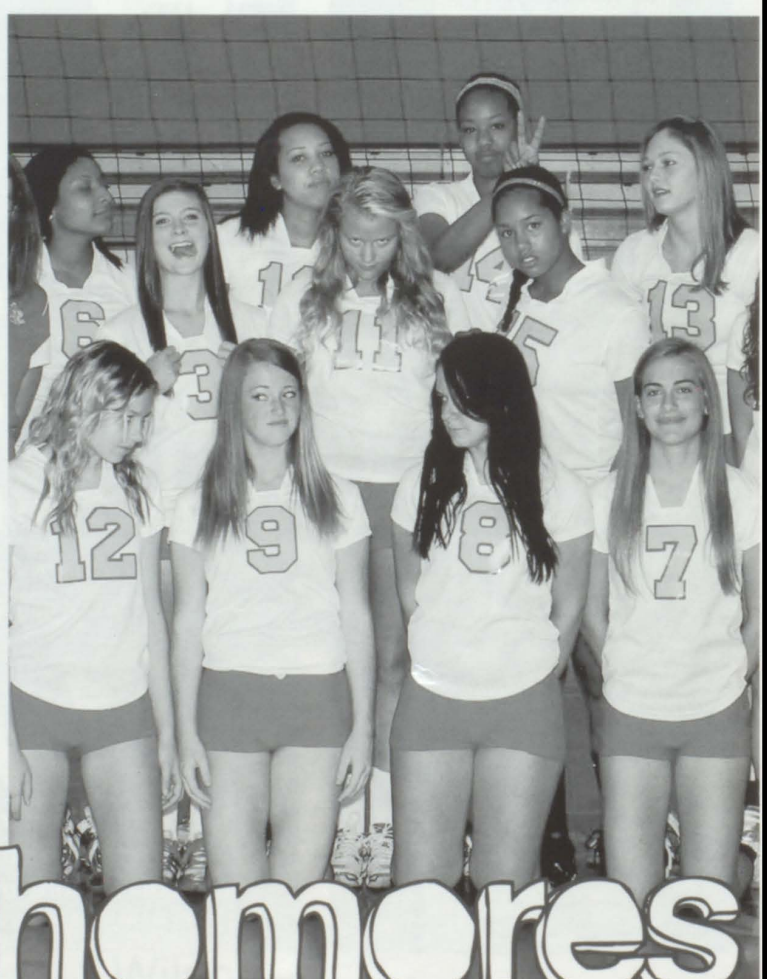
"It's nice not having to walk so far, and it's easier to get to my classes." Kelsey Jackson

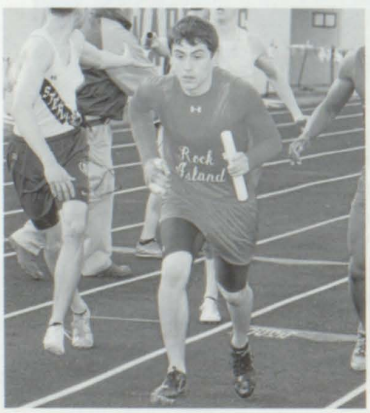


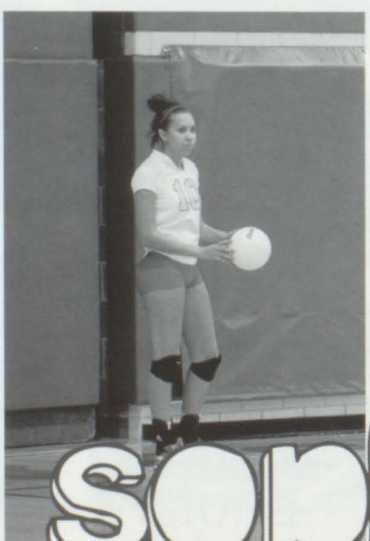
"I feel more like I'm treated much older by everyone, and I have more to look forward to because I'm more involved." Sierra Hurt



"I feel older and like I am a bigger part of the school. I'm no longer sectioned off." Haley Sigel







sophomores

Describe Your Sophomore Year.

On her second year of Symphonic Band as a sophomore: "Being asked to play bari sax in Symphonic Band as a freshman was a huge honor. Playing the challenging music with upperclassmen helped me grow as a musician, and going to All-State was an experience I won't soon forget."

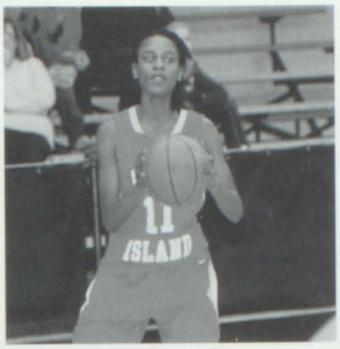
- Melissa Hagerty

On being a sophomore on the Varsity team: "It was a great experience, and it showed me what I need to improve on for next year."

- Jason Jones

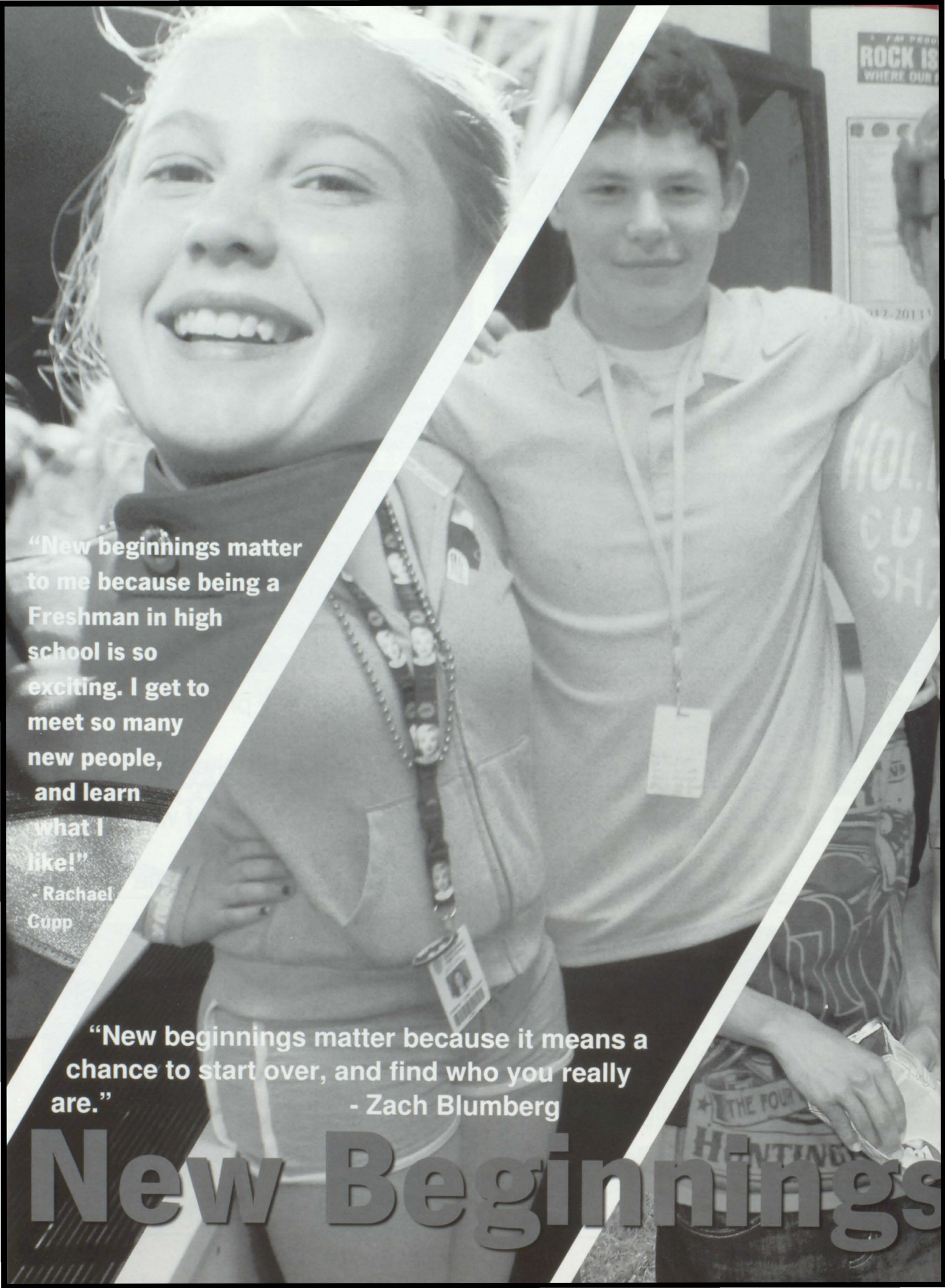
Accomplishment Matters Here

Expressing Yourself Matters Here



10 things sophomores would bring if they were deserted on an island.

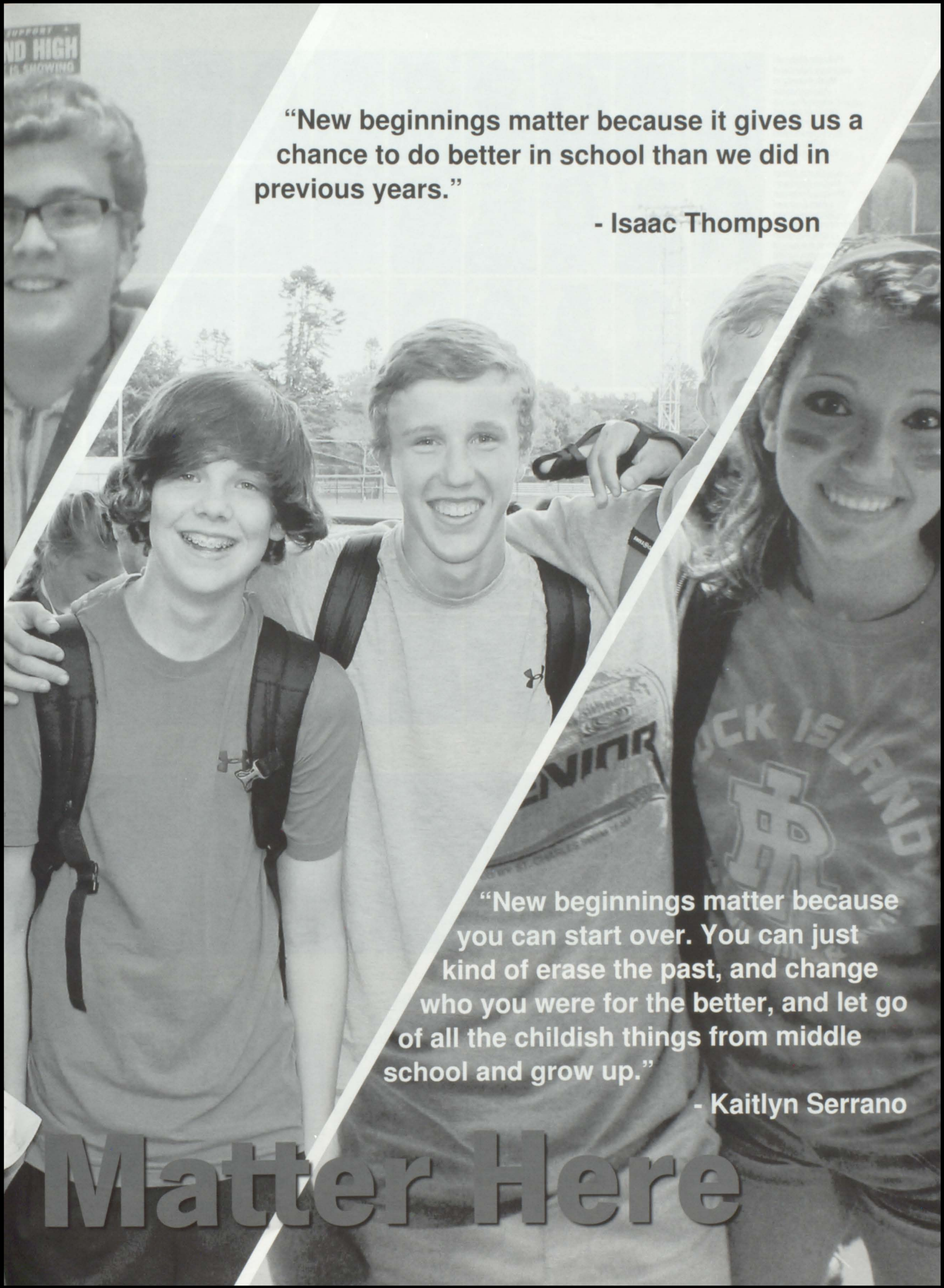
1. "An endless supply of duct tape." - Shamus Murphy
2. "Bruce Willis." - Joshua Pepping
3. "A survival guide." - Lindsay Mumma
4. "Protein Shakes." - Michael Martin
5. "A big Gatorade." - KayViion Lue
6. "My phone." - Brooke Hickenbottom
7. "A LOT of water." - Ana Veronda
8. "My dad." - Chandler Steele
9. "A radio." - John Ponsetto
10. "My dog." - Sophie Taylor



"New beginnings matter to me because being a Freshman in high school is so exciting. I get to meet so many new people, and learn what I like!"
- Rachael Cupp

"New beginnings matter because it means a chance to start over, and find who you really are."
- Zach Blumberg

New Beginnings



"New beginnings matter because it gives us a chance to do better in school than we did in previous years."

- Isaac Thompson

"New beginnings matter because you can start over. You can just kind of erase the past, and change who you were for the better, and let go of all the childish things from middle school and grow up."

- Kaitlyn Serrano

Matter Here

Hakeem Abdullah
Jonathan Ackerland
Myah Ackerland
Mylee Adams
Jorge Aguilera
Shiriyah Albright
Asrielle Allen
Sean Allen
Bailey Allison
Victoria Almanza

Grace Alongi
Magan Anderson
Melanie Anderson
Alex Andrews
R'manee Angel
Francescia Anguiano
Lexie Angusich
Mackenzye Arnold
Scotlan Arnold
Jazzmin Arrington

Andrea Arrington-Johnson
Soe Aung
Alicia Austin
Mirian Avila
Alexandra Axup
Anna Bacon
Kelsey Bagley
Bryan Banks
Trenton Banks
Omidullah Barikzay

Shakeria Barnett
Caitleen Battin
Dashanae Beason
Matthew Beckhart
Pendo Belise
Lauren Bell
Gustave Benimana
Courtney Bensenberg
Miranda Bentley
Taleah Bentley

Destiney Berry
Skyler Bertoli
Dawt Bik
Paul Bilori
Madison Binder
Alexander Binion
Cierra Biswell
Jada Black
Christopher Blanch
Olivia Bloway

Zachary Blumberg
Jarrett Boner
Stefanie Borchardt
Gabriellia Boyd
India Bradley
Shelby Brasmer
Aaron Bries
Macy Brinker
Christian Brinkley
Shalynn Brodnax

The Difference

Between Junior High and High School

"High school is so much better than junior high. You get a chance to reinvent yourself and become who you want to be. You get to meet some of the best people you will ever know."

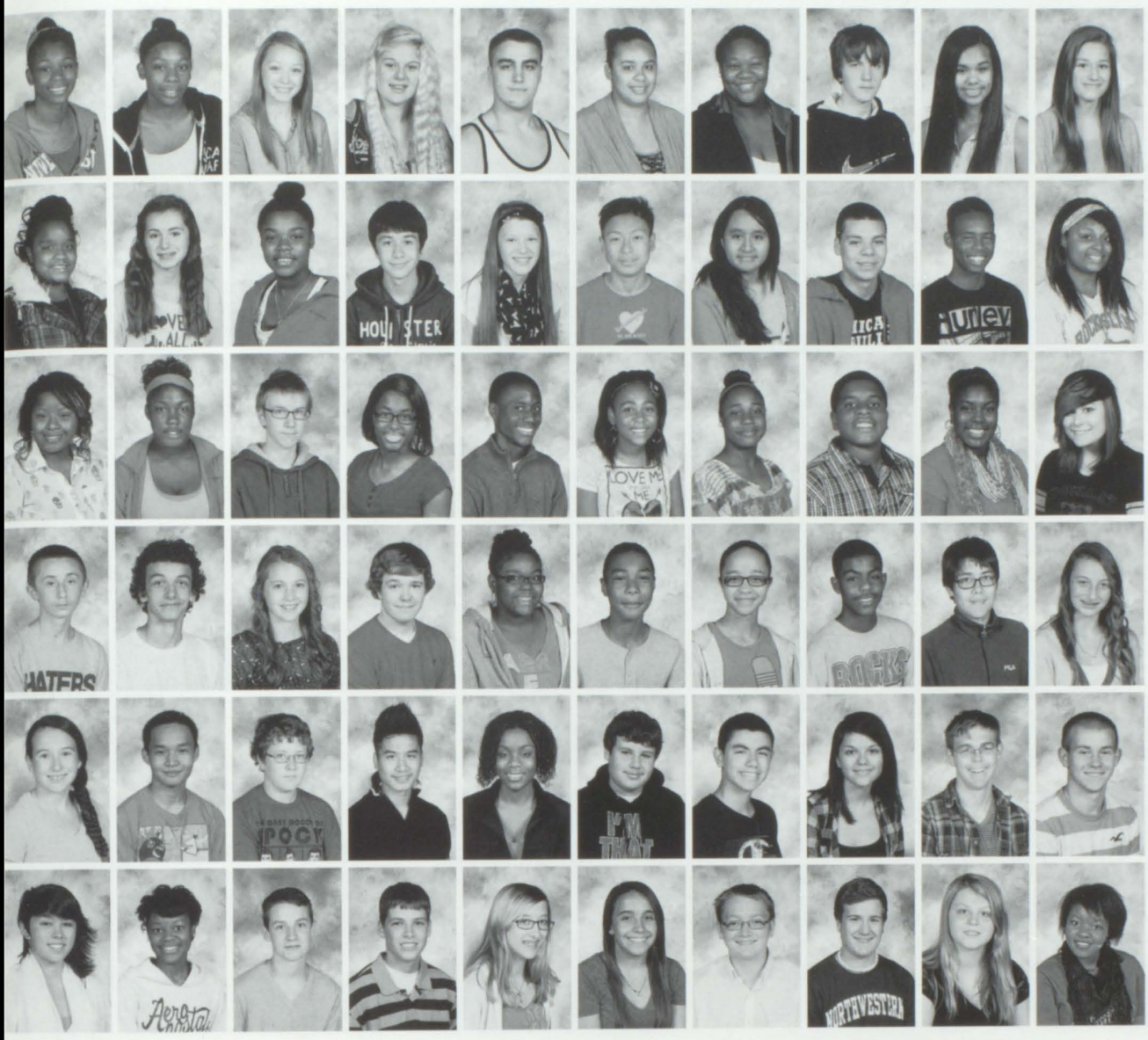
Kari Meyer

"There are tons of positives to high school, like you can be in marching band, you can take two electives, and find more people who are like you."

Robert Ducey

"There's more people to meet and more memories to make. Also, the passing time here is longer."

Taylor Madison



Eraycia Brown
Rayneshia Brown
Camille Brune
Kayli Buckrop
Adam Burdock-Poulin
Nicole Burnett
Sandra Burns
Andrew Bushnell
Alexis Butler
Haley Camlin

Anissa Campbell
Tobi Carey
Mariah Carter
Armand Cerda
Katherine Chastain
Chi Chi
Cinthia Cisneros
James Clark
Dandre Clay
Jake'ia Clay

Makayla Clay
Rhiyanna Coats
Tyler Coffey
Camryn Comodore
Casey Comodore
Juliene Conner
Jaiveiona Cooke
Kameron Craig
Kiara Craig
Magdalene Crawford

Donte Crawford-Keever
Aaron Crose II
Rachael Cupp
Jerid Curley
Myyacle Curtis
Miles Daggett
Dasia Davis
Kobie Davis
Shawn Dennis
Sumer DePaepe

Madison DePover
Timothy Did
Karl Dix
Htoo E Doh
LaQuirsa Douglas
Tavian Downing
Jorge Duarte
Selena Duarte
Robert Ducey
Connor Dusch

Klarissa Eckermann
Crystal Ehimwenman
Dyllan Elliott
Jacob Ellis
Alexis Ely
Jennah Emmert
Porter Enstrom
Dominic Esposito
Megan Estep
Habonimana Esterine

"The diversity is one of the best parts for me. Coming from Seton Junior High has been a great transition because everyone here has been so welcoming and open to having new friends."

Porter Enstrom

"Junior high is only a fraction of the size, school work, and responsibilities. High school is the next closest thing to reality."

Leigha Sebben

"The positives about high school are there are a lot more people I can cope with and be myself around than I could in junior high."

Jarred McClendon

Irankunda Etienne
Griffin Evans
Anna Farmer
Donovan Ferrel
Dylan Fiedler
Emmalee Finch
Annee Fleck
Jana Fleming
Irakoze Flora
Tatum Flores

Alexis Ford
Mario Forrest
Lauren Forslund
Jules Foutch
Havyarimana Frank
Corey Freeman
Serena Fuller
Audrey Gale
Jahayra Galeana
Jamayra Galeana

Dakotah Gardner
JaLynn Garrard
Jamuna Gautam
Marquis Gay
Tyonna Gay
Saare Gafo Gerezgiher
Alexis Gilbert
Shawn Gingry
Javier Gomez
Tony Gomez

Yvonica Gomez
Elijah Gooden
Anisa Gordon
Ariel Goswick
Damien Gray
Aumunique Green
Destiney Green
Emily Green
Chelsea Griffin
Ellysa Griffin

Jacob Griffin
Nicholas Griffin
Crystal Griffith
Trustin Grigsby
Samjana Gurung
Amanda Gustafson
Gayle Gustafson
Parrish Gustafson
Jerry Hacker
Jason Hadden

Kassidy Hainline
Karrissa Hall
Kelciee Hall
Tanner Hamburg
Ayana Hancock
Emma Hanson
Logan Haskill
Bailey Heath
Cameron Heath
Emilie Heggen

Making Waves

In and Out of the Water

As the Lady Rocks began their season this year, and prepared to take the pool, they knew they had a vital weapon against competition. Freshman Varsity swimmer, Elaina Quilty came in with confidence, and was ready to dominate the competition. She impressed, and also intimidated, many swimmers and coaches throughout the region, with her speed and technique throughout all of her events. She shocked people the most, however, with her 100 yard backstroke. By taking third at Sectionals, only as a freshman, she definitely wrapped up her explosive first year by surprising everyone yet again.

Captain Hannah Rodriguez raves about the years to come, and how much Elaina could accomplish in them. Rodriguez states, "By the end of her senior year, she will easily have won either a Conference or Sectional title, and hopefully make her cut for State!" Everyone cannot wait to see what she has in store for the upcoming years.

Swimming not only has taught her how to be an impressive athlete and competitor, but also a better person. Elaina explains, "Swimming really has taught me a lot. It has taught me sportsmanship, leadership, determination, dedication, and most importantly, it has given me confidence in myself." She is not only a great competitor and swimmer, but also a great friend. The Rocks are confident that her success freshman year is a sign of the great achievements that will come in her future years.

Jovon Henderson
Tyvon Henderson
Vaveka Hicks
Cameron Hilligoss
Hannah Hills
Richard Hinton
Rual Hnem
Brandon Hobbs
Skylar Hobbs
Elisabeth Hoeper

William Holmberg
Adrianna Holtam
Annika Hong
Jessica Horton
Jayden Hoskins
Kameron Houston
Tee Moo Hsee
July Htoo
Tal Nay Htoo
Dim Sian Huai

Jerry Hudsepth
Jordan Hudson
Alec Huff
Madeline Hughes
Tohama Hurtado
India Bradley
Elizabeth Israel
Jacob Israel
Akia Ivy
Nyabenda Jackson

Aleksander Jacobs
Logan Janes
Aishakiye Janvier
Tyler John
Arriaja Johnson
Demetria Johnson
Dylan Johnson
Natinique Johnson
Ramon Johnson-Taylor
Terah Johnston

DayBreonna Jones
Emerald Jones
Roda Juma
Bimal Kafley
Sangita Kafley
Nyong-Ja Amielle Kalomba
Faith Karr
Taylor Keever
Hunter Keim
Dianthia Kelley

Triston Kelley
Cedreahna Kennedy
Pearson Kerchner
Stephanie Kerno
TyQueriyah Key
Karreena Killian
Emma Knuckey
Rebecca Knuth
Alaina Kolls
Chantelle Kopcho

YOUR Marching Family Matters Here

Q: How has Marching Band affected your freshman year?

"It made me feel like I was in a family, and it showed that there are great people who make my life interesting." - Jarred McClendon

"Without Marching Band, I wouldn't have made most of my friends." - Robert Ducey

"I got to know people even before school started, so by the time it did, I didn't feel lonely. I gained family members." - Annika Hong

"It really made me more outgoing, and it made me feel like I really belong at Rocky." - Alex Axup

FRESHMAN MARCHERS

Stephen Krahling
Samuel Kruckenberg
Beth Kuehnel
Mu Ke La
Abigail LaCamera
Dav'ionce Lackey-Lomax
Ian Lampert
Kelann Lampkin
Max Lelonek
Josefine Leonard

Kaleb Leone
Kaylyn Lewis
Keniya Lewis
Gordon Li
Julia Limon
Samuel Little
Trent Livengood
Elijah Lloyd
Darin Lommell
Rachel Long

Saul Lopez
Thomas Lowery
Meadow Lucas
Sophia Ma
Desiree Machuca
Taylor Madison
Nishimwe Magrethe
Sethi Manasse
Lyndsay Martel
Diego Martinez

Leticia Martinez-Ramirez
Damon Mason
Drake Mason
Andrew Matheis
Brianna Matthews
Juvoncia Matthews
Jarred McClendon
Kobe McCorkle
Ivana McCormick
Bryce McCraw

Brady McCready
Preston McDowell
Andreona McDuffy
Gillian McMahon
Miranda Meadows
Alexander Mendoza
Mireya Mendoza-Garcia
Ebony Meyer
Karilyn Meyer
Caitlyn Milefchik

Arviana Miles
Loryn Millbrook
Josie Miller
Wesley Miller
Ashlee Minear
Elijah Montalvo
Gay Moo
Oh Sho Moo
Soe Gay Moo
Jackson Mooney

Freshmen Athletes

Dakota Moore
Isiah Morales
Shayla Morelock
Matthew Moultrie
Bienvenue Mshonda
Tyshae'India Mulica
Devviona Muscovalley
Faith Mutum
Margaret Myers
Michael Myers

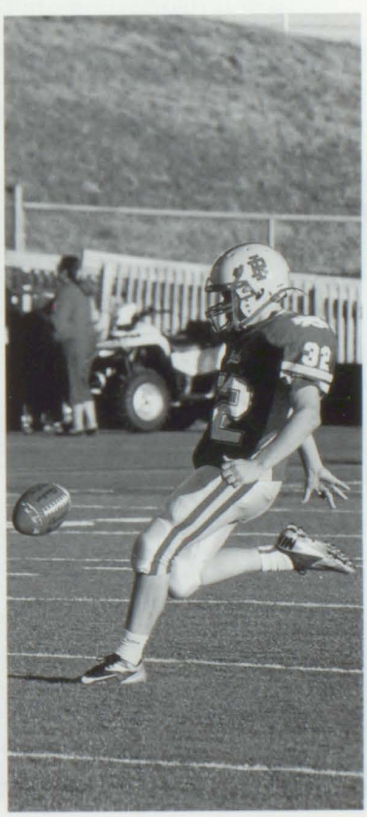
Jacob Naab
Killian Neels
Mwavita Neema
Dekari Nephew
Joshantis Nephew
Autumn Newberry
Aniah Newsome
Hunter Neyens
Nay Ngae
Faransine Niyokwizera

Janette Nizeyimana
Evangeline Nizigiymana
Biak Cung Nung
Zachary Painter
Codi Patrick
Samantha Pauwels
Braedyn Perez
Victor Perez
Keiante Peters
Koby Peterson

Khalil Phanhlathy
Bannie D Philips
Kaley Phillips
Tayvaughon Phillips
Trevor Pickett
Anthony Pittington
Salena Pizano
Tara Platt
Kyle Plohr
Lexi Plumb

Matthew Pohl
William Pohl
Jacinda Pompa-Solis
Gabrielle Poole
Camryn Price
Mariah Prieto
Zachary Pruitt
Arianna Pugh
Christopher Pugh
Jaysia Pugh

Ahmad Pulliam
Keynon Pulliam
Mit Pyo Pyo
Elaina Quilty
Carmelita Ramirez
Fernando Ramos
Christopher Ramsey-Moody
Jaime Rea
Mikayla Reed
Joshua Richards



James Richardson
Zhanaya Richardson
Terrell Robinson
Alexander Rocillo
Elysia Rohr
Jenifer Romero
Thomas Romo
Jett Rossi
Ricardo Ruiz-Villagomez
Joseph Rush

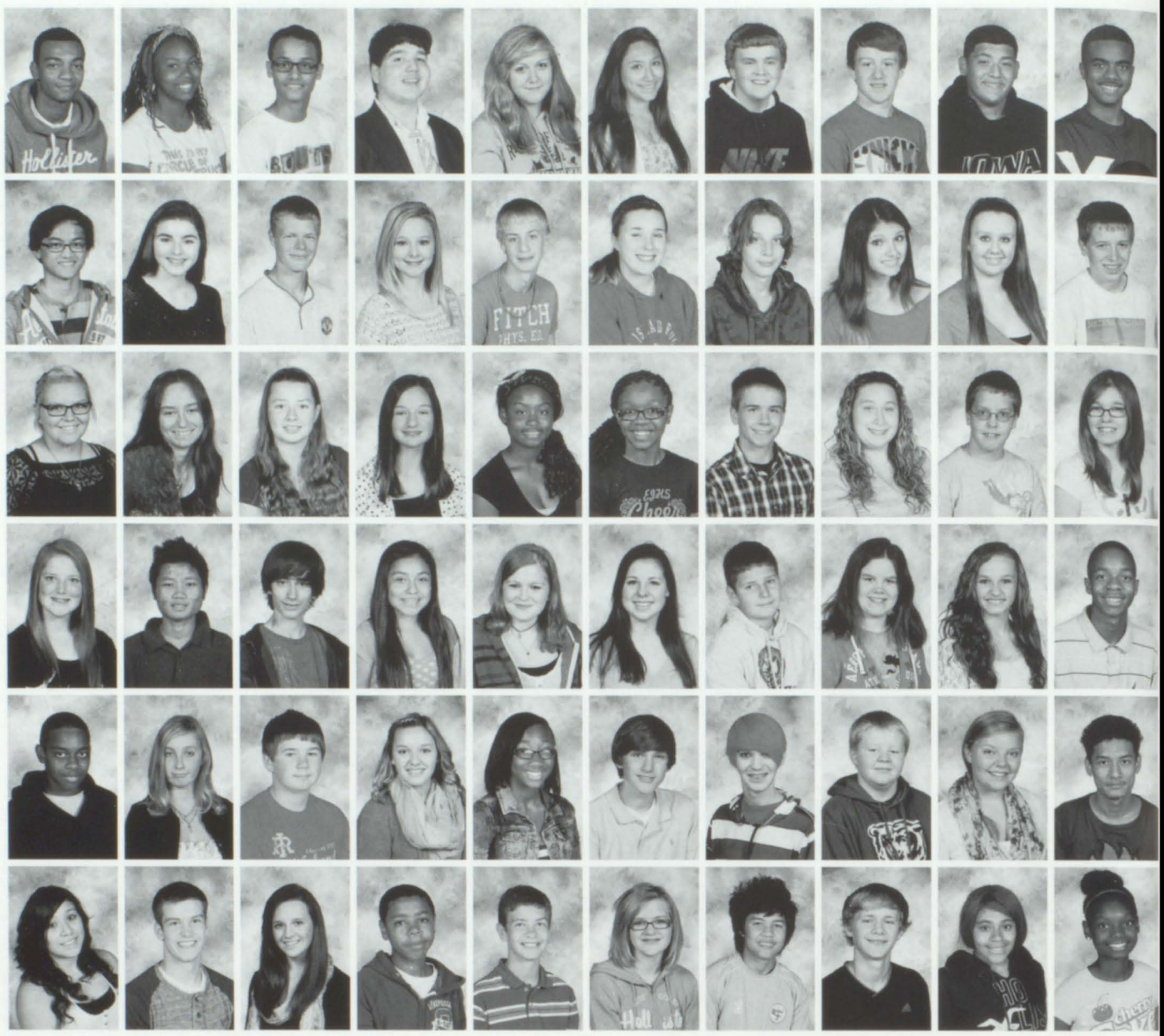
John Salas
Charlieana Salzmann
Blake Schneider
Allyssa Schriner
Dustin Schriner-Hall
Leigha Sebben
Christopher Selsor
Kaitlyn Serrano
Taylor Sharpe
Nathan Shesky

Jessica Shewell
Alexander Shuck
Alexandria Sierens
Grace Sigler
Deja Simmons
Tatyana Simmons
Brady Smith
Katelyn Smock
Kyle Sneade
Hannah Snell

Taylor Sodaro
Aung Soe
Travis Soseman
Rosio Soto
Elizabeth Speaker
Taylor Spencer
Chase Spicer
Emily Spidle
Rachel Spragg
D'Angelo Steele

Que Steele
Amber Steffenson
Christopher Stone
Sabrina Stone
Tajae Stoner-Harris
Tate Sunlin
Lee Swank
Marcus Syler-White
Maegan Tallman
Sun Tamang

Maria Tapia Montoya
Jacob Tauke
Alexis Taylor
Matthew Taylor
Joshua Teggatz
Taylor Temple
EhTu Tha
Andrew Thomas
Chance Thomas
Jasmine Thomas



Your First Year in a ROCKY JERSEY Matters Here

Cierra Biswell
"I think that playing for Rocky will be a great experience, so I can't wait to put that jersey on."

Brady McCready
"Putting a Rocky football jersey on made me feel like more of a part of the school."

Jayde Wayland
"It was very exciting to wear a Rocky jersey for the first time, and be a part of an undefeated team."

Camryn Price
"It made me feel like I accomplished something big, and also, gave me a lot of confidence."

Isaac Thompson
Sienna Thompson
Yin Min Tight
Seth Tobin
Jessica Torrence
Christian Torres
Austin Trask
Caitlyn Treanor
Erik Tunnell
Debra Tweh

Garrolyn Vah
Kaylee Valberg
James Vinar
Ethan Walker
Johnny Walls
Michael Walls
Noah Watkins
Jayde Wayland
Joyce Wea
Elijah Westmorland

Jasmine Whaley
Jalise White
Jasmine White
Tatianna White
Adrian Whitfield
Noah Wiley
Courtney Willmon
Chinue Wilson
Michael Wilson
Justice Wilson-Edell

Ma Khin Win
Mason Witsman
Lucky Boy Wulu
Kylie Wymer
David Xique
Mashair Yahya
Abbigail Yodts
Zayne Zaiss
Antonio Zapata
Spencer Zeglin

The First Year at the Rock

he said

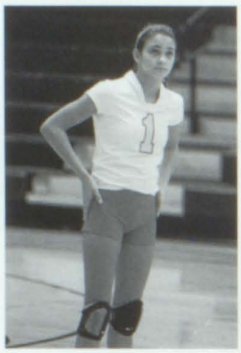
Kyle Plohr

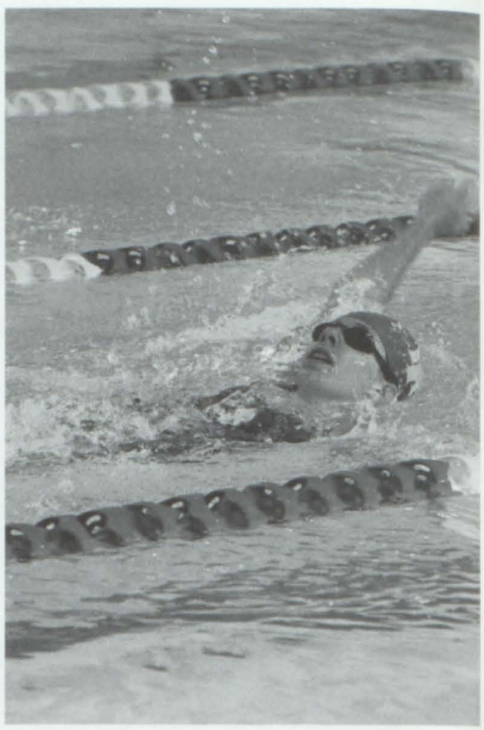
"This experience is going to help with college, and getting ready for life by being helpful and respectful. When it comes to athletics, high school sports are very different from junior high sports. Everyone on your team depends on you to do your job, and if you can't, then you're not working hard enough."

she said

Kylie Wymer

"My time at Rock Island High School as a freshman has been an extraordinary experience. At first, the new school concept had me a bit scared, especially moving on to high school. However, I overcame that little scare within the first week like most freshmen. New hallways, a new locker combination, new teachers all became a new and exciting time the first week in August. One of the things I was most excited about high school was all the extra-curricular activities offered from sports like volleyball and basketball to clubs like Academic Team or Student Senate. I also loved all the new friendships I made with people in those activities that had the same interests as me. Those friendships will follow me throughout the rest of my life. So many choice and so many possibilities!"





freshmen

Who Has Impacted You...

"My aunt, Ms. Johnson, because she helped me get working, and make up work for classes."
- Jerry Hacker

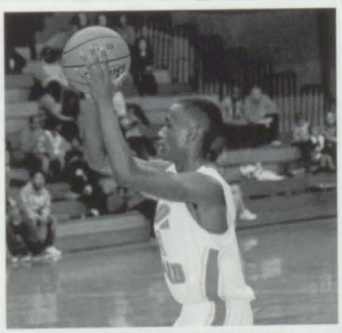
"Madame B. She has made me feel so welcome here during my first year at Rocky."
- Elaina Quilty

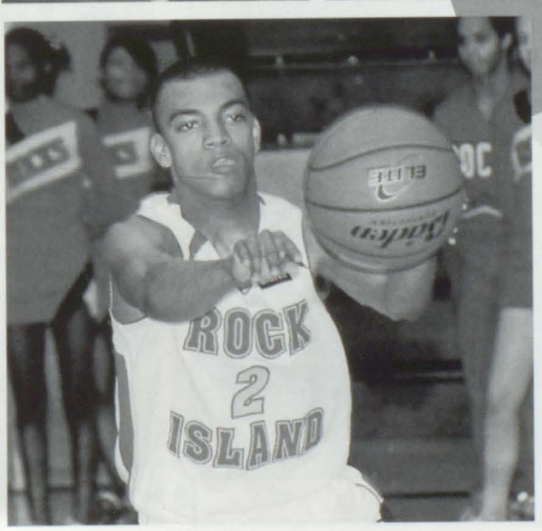
"Mr.Corwin made the class fun and made the class easier to learn in."
- Noah Wiley

"Mrs. Anderson. She's helped me through so many of my problems, and just gives the best advice to any situation. She's also a wonderful teacher."
- Camryn Price

During Your Freshman Year?

Freshman Hoops





5 Rumors Heard About Rocky vs. The Facts

1. "I heard that freshman year would be easy, but it's kind of hard because you have to adapt."
2. "I heard that Rocky would be super fun, and it was true!"
3. "I heard that Rocky never cancels school in the winter, but we ended up having a ton of snow days!"
4. "I heard that there was a good sports program, and it's true!"
5. "I heard about something called Freshman Friday, where all of the upperclassmen were going to mess with us, but nothing even happened!"

Freshmen Advice
learned in the year

"Keep your grades up and good things will happen!"

Leigha Sebben

"Upperclassmen have experienced it, and they made it through. So we can, too!"

Grace Sigler

"Do your best, pay attention, and be yourself. Don't trip, freshman year is easy."

Ricardo Ruiz

"It's a bad day, not a bad life."

Tyshae' Mulica

"Be involved in as much as you can!"

Charlieana Salzmann

"Don't worry about other stuff, just focus on school!"

Lexie Angusich

"Always bring a pencil to class!"

Chase Ross

Q: What is your advice for the freshman class?

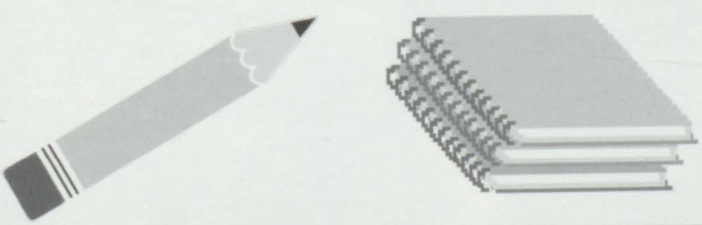
A: "Come to school, and your classes on time. Do your work, stay out of trouble, join extra curricular activities, and have fun."
Mr. Kennelly

A: "Getting behind on credits your freshman year will have negative effects all through high school, and after. Be focused early!"
Mr. Hawley

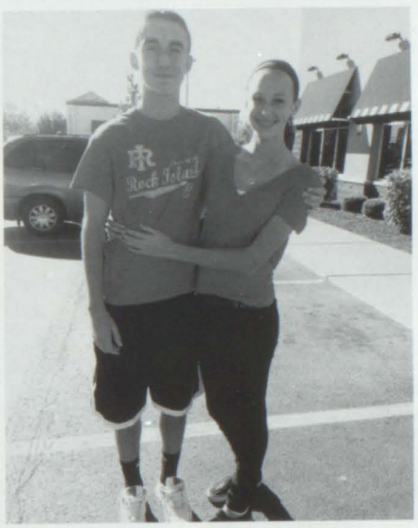
A: "The Concourse is key!!!"
Mr. Stone

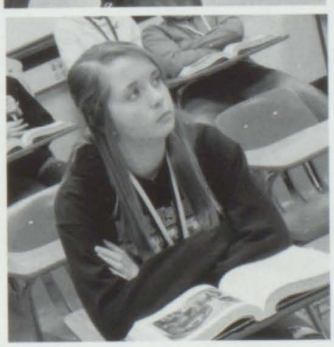
A: "Bring a pencil to class."
Ms. Wirth

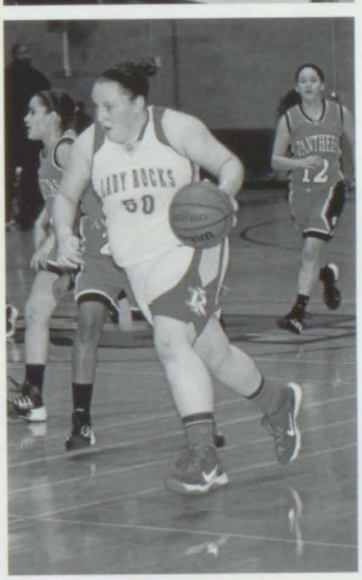
freshmen

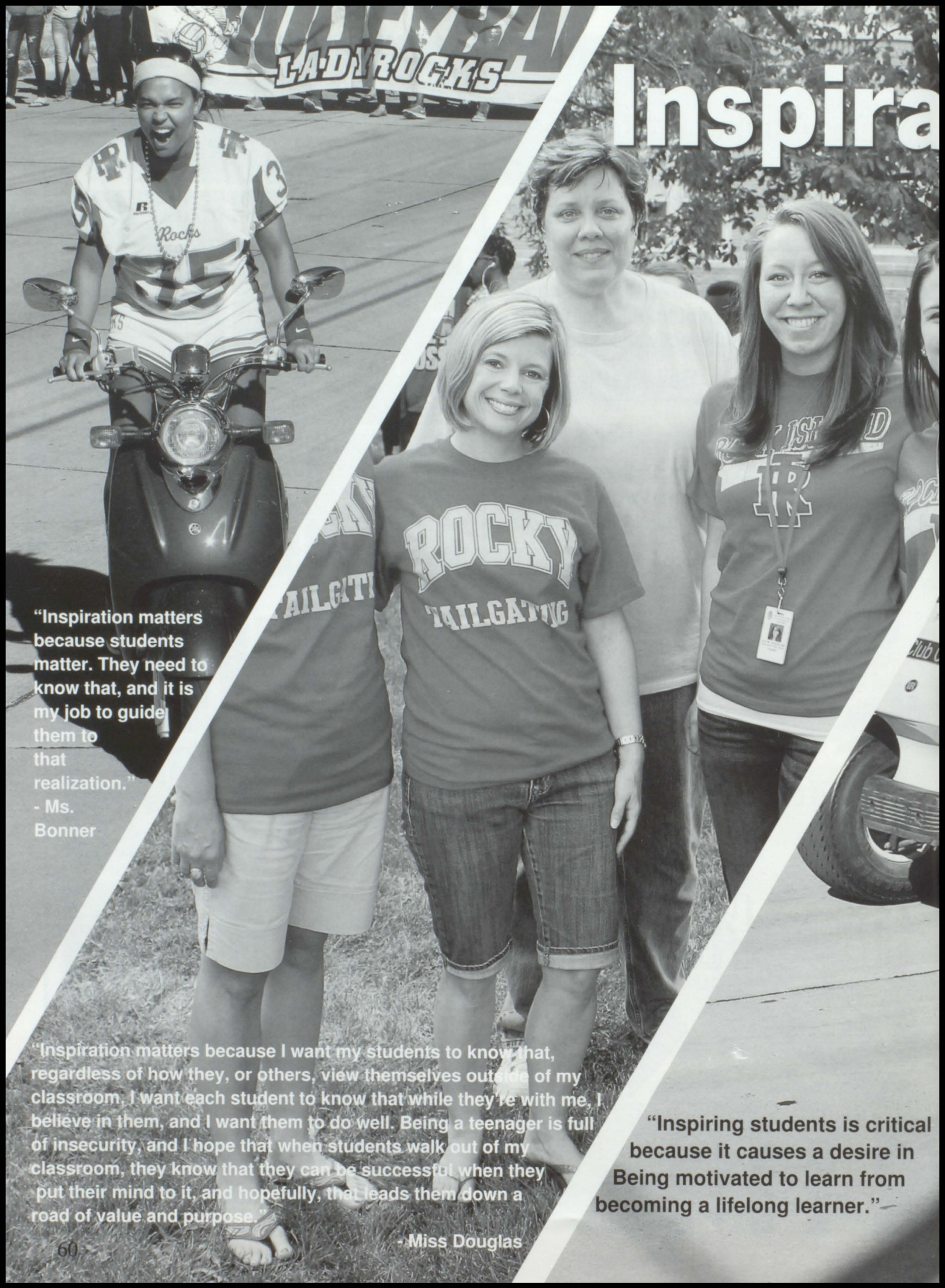


Life As A Freshman









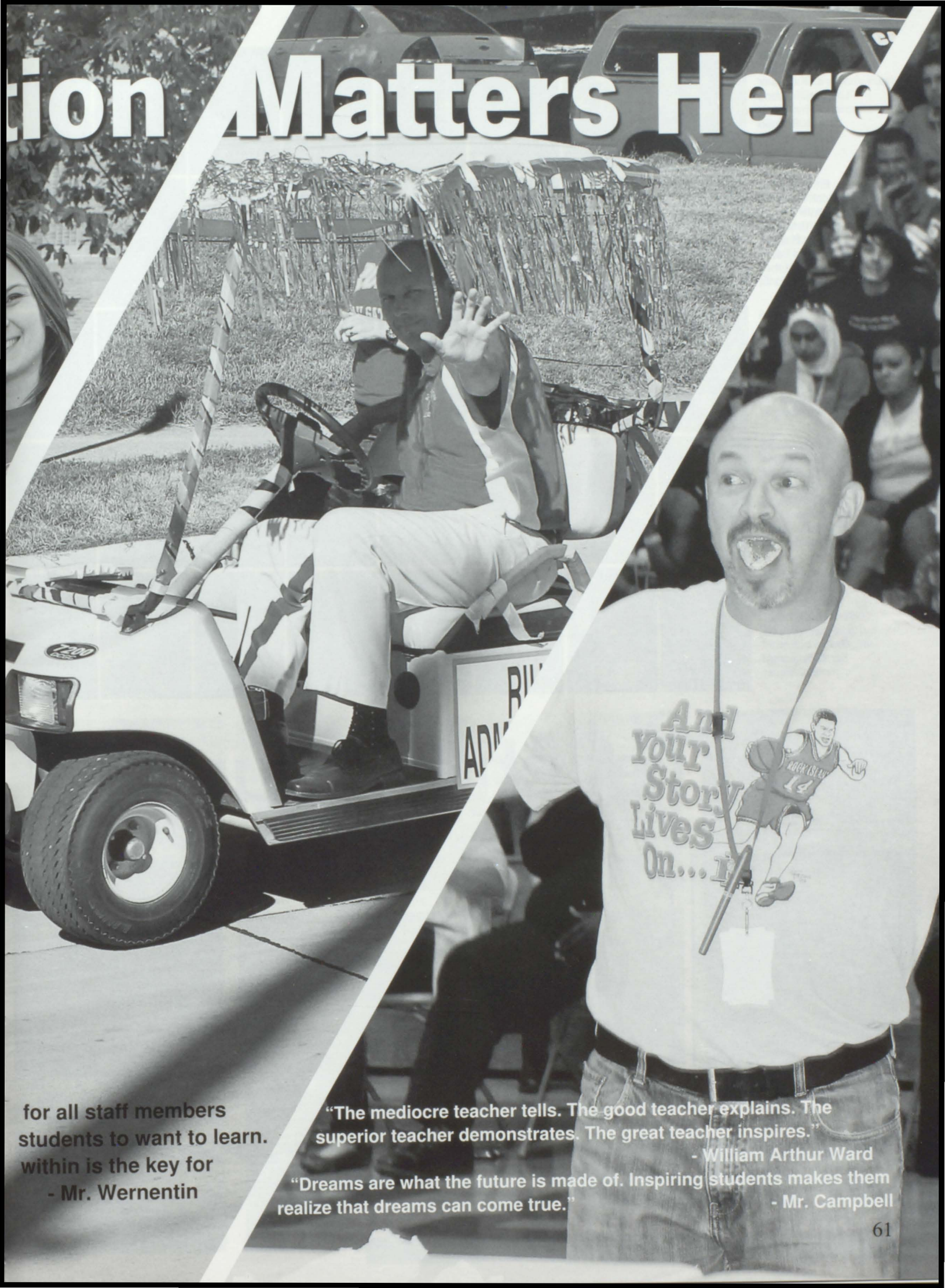
Inspira

"Inspiration matters because students matter. They need to know that, and it is my job to guide them to that realization."
- Ms. Bonner

"Inspiration matters because I want my students to know that, regardless of how they, or others, view themselves outside of my classroom, I want each student to know that while they're with me, I believe in them, and I want them to do well. Being a teenager is full of insecurity, and I hope that when students walk out of my classroom, they know that they can be successful when they put their mind to it, and hopefully, that leads them down a road of value and purpose."

- Miss Douglas

"Inspiring students is critical because it causes a desire in Being motivated to learn from becoming a lifelong learner."



for all staff members
students to want to learn.
within is the key for
- Mr. Wernentin

"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."
- William Arthur Ward

"Dreams are what the future is made of. Inspiring students makes them realize that dreams can come true."
- Mr. Campbell

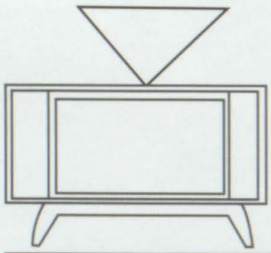
Erika Ahlers
Craig Allison
Lori Alvarez
Lori Angel-Young
Tammy Ash
Michael Benson
Perry Bentsen
Nancy Bittner

Emily Bohling
Scott Bohlman
Andrea Bonner
Connie Brackney
James Bustard
Charles Butler
Andrew Campbell
Pete Carlin

Jon Catterton
Michael Cavaliero
Robb Christensen
Bill Churchill
Caitlin Clough
Tim Corwin
Janette Creger
Amy Curtiss

Cory Dalton
Carol Depron
Annamarie Diaz
Stephanie Dieudonne
Larry Dixon
Lisa Donelson
Katie Douglas
Carmine Draude

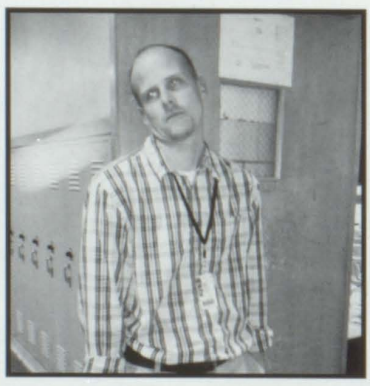
Jeff Duster
Chris Dyer
Scott Dyer
Steve Ebner
Nick Eli
Gretchen Embry
Sarah Engstrom
Lisa Faust



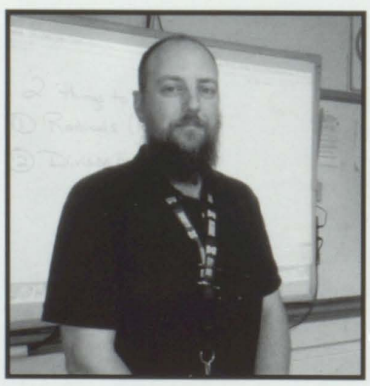
Teachers Tune In

Teachers describe which shows describe their lives.

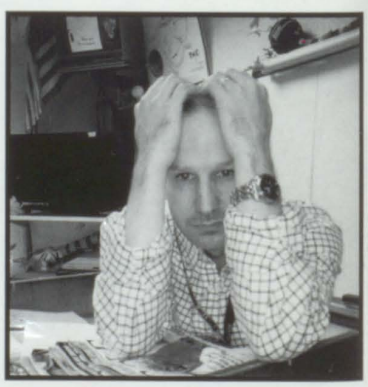
"Mysteries at the Museum"
- Ms. Lorenz



"Adventure Time"
- Mr.Duster



"Duck Dynasty"
- Mr. Melody



"Conspiracy Theories"
- Mr. Dyer

Dori Foster
Terri Grafton
Yolanda Grandberry Pugh
Andrew Gray
Michelle Greenwood
Bill Gustafson
Andrew Hains
Peggy Hallas

Jackie Harms
Mike Hawley
Connie Hayek
Thad Hoover
Keely Hornick
Stuart Hoskin
Tina Imes
Monica Jager

Brittanee Janecek
David Jirele
Jen Johnson
Lanette Johnson
Reshanda Johnson
Troy Joseph
Tracy Juscius
Liz Kantner

Chad Kennelly
Ketty Klauer
Allyson Knanishu
Lisa Lack
Rachel Landsness
Rod Leatherman
Angela Loebach
Amanda Lorenz

Susan Magerkurth
Patricia Matson
Milo McCowan
Tammy McDonald
Shanley McGlaughlin
Mary Lou McLaughlin
Mike Melody
Mary Mendelin

The Rocky Staff

Rocks Homecoming

Sarah Miers
Kathy Miller
Hae Moo
Kristin Moody
Kellen Morrow
Tammy Nelson
Jennifer Page
Donald Palm

Jacob Park
Julie Pearson
Emily Peterson
Sa-Tosha Phillips
Gail Pitcher
Amanda Puebla
Chad Quick
Joanne Quinlin

Nicole Regan
Caren Rivera
Douglas Roberts
Steven Rogers
Connie Schwab
Craig Sharp
Thom Sigel
Robert Smith

Susie Stark
Heidi Steger
Patricia Steger
Janice Stephenson
Courtney Stone
Joann Stribling
Shari Thompson
Michael Tollenaer

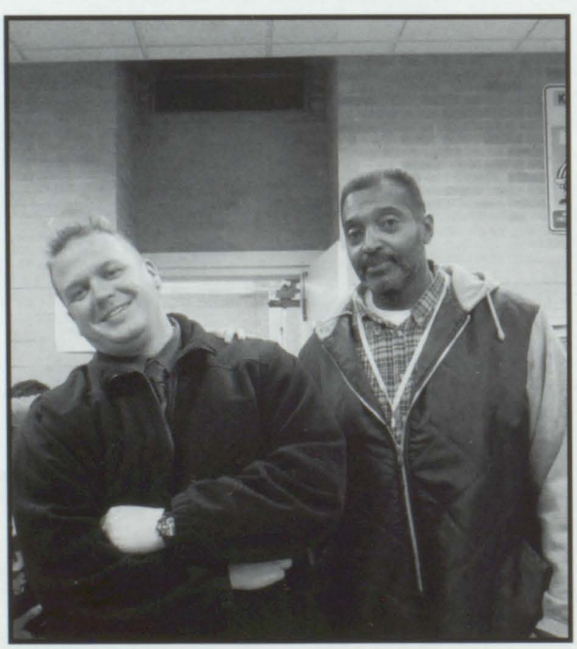
Shawn Trask
Kevin Traylor
Daniel Trenary
Kim Van Kirk
Tami Viernow
Scott Voigt
Laurie Vroman
Jay Wayland

Life in the HALLS

Rock Island High School is bustling with over 1500 students every day. With that many Rocks comes responsibility. A whole team of dedicated security staff is placed within the school to make sure the students have a safe learning environment in order to thrive. Milo McCowan is a well known security guard throughout the school. He has numerous responsibilities that he has to take care of every single day, such as making sure the students are wearing their ID's, remaining orderly in the lunchroom, and are in class on time. "It feels good to know that the students can come to school in a safe environment, and I can provide that for them," Milo says.

Making sure the halls are running smoothly can be a challenging job, but because students are only in passing time 24 minutes out of the actual school day, he does experience some downtime. "When nothing's going on, I'm bored, but when something's happening, I wish I were bored."

One of Milo's day to day duties is breaking up any quarrels that may spark up. Although this is unpleasant, he and his co-workers are the gatekeepers and peace keepers of Rock Island High School. This part of his job is extremely necessary, and Milo remarks, "I just want everyone to be safe."



Detective Meiresonne and Milo McCowan work together during one of Rocky's lunches.

Milo is a seasoned security guard at Rocky these days, and has learned a few lessons in his experiences. "You have to tolerate some things, sometimes, and you have to be patient. Sometimes, things are just beyond your control, and you have to be understanding of that," he says. Along with a lesson in patience, Milo has learned how to be even more efficient while doing his job. "While I'm walking by classrooms, I'll just pop my head in and see what's going on. Sometimes, I can catch problems before they even really get a chance to start."

Milo is definitely a savvy worker, and extremely essential to running the high school. But, arguably, the most important responsibility he has is his consistency for the students. "You know that if you have an issue, no matter where you are in the school, Milo or some other security guard is around. And that means a lot to everyone's safety. I just like knowing he's there, whether I need him o not," student Claire Bacon says. Milo's purpose is bigger than many realize. Out numbered 1500 to one, Milo and his co-workers are the gatekeepers and peace keepers of Rock Island High School.

Wade Webber
Jeff Wendland
Tim Wernentin
Michelle Williams
Haley Wirth
Gary Wolber
Nancy Wolber
Julie Woods

Getting a *Cultural* Education

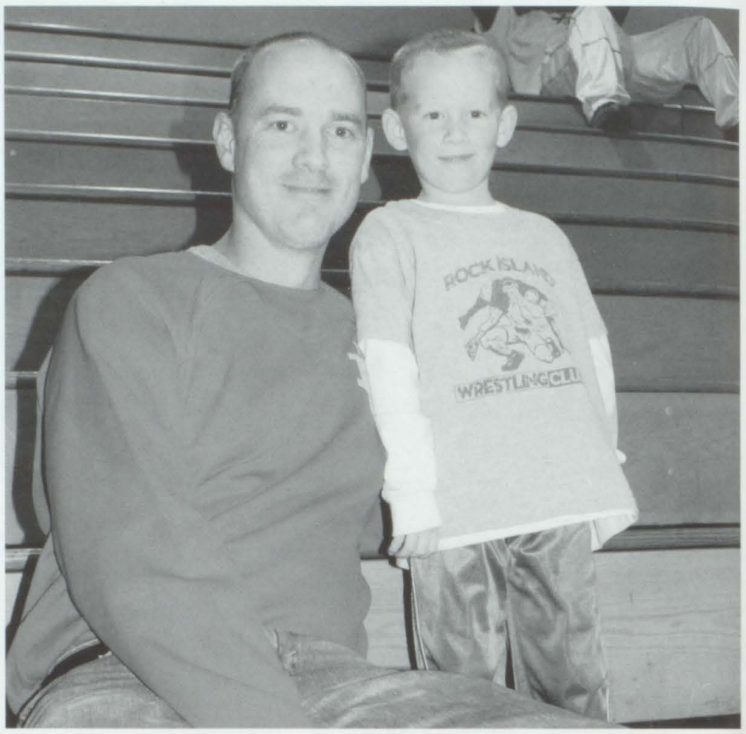
Mrs. Miller was an elementary teacher at two different schools in the district when she decided she wanted a change. The human resource director asked her to consider teaching ELL part-time because of her masters degree in reading. ELL stands for English Language Learners. She did not know too much about ELL, but she wanted to pursue the opportunity. She told the human resource director that she would like to work at both Rocky and Thurgood school. "I did not choose to be an ELL teacher, it chose me," said Mrs. Miller. She started working with ELL students in January of 2002. Rock Island had only 9 ELL students at the time, however, they had 12 former students that she did an ELL study skills class for each morning. "Once I started working with ELL students, I completely fell in love with them. I loved how hard these students work, not only in learning the content of their classes, but also learning at that content English," said Mrs. Miller

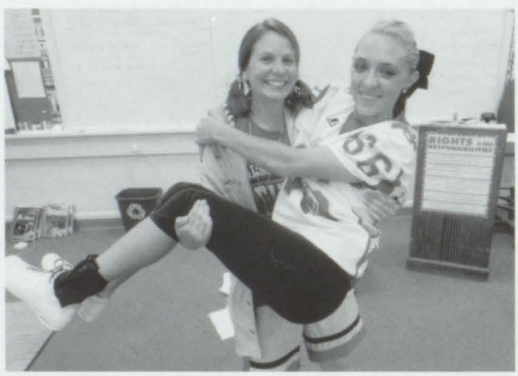
Mrs. Miller has had to overcome challenges to be an ELL teacher. She does not speak any other language, so she must utilize many sources to communicate successfully. "It takes a lot of time to prepare for each lesson that I teach," said Mrs. Miller. Another conflict she has faced is dealing with the public perception of ELL students. Many people think that ELL is just for Spanish-speaking students. Although there have been a couple of years where Spanish was the dominant language of ELL students here at Rocky, that is not always the case.

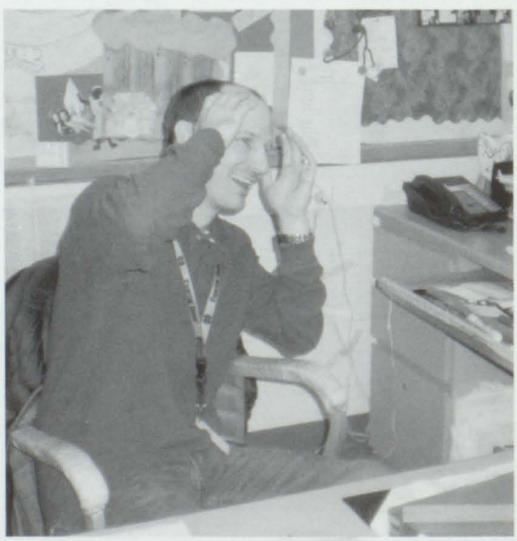
Mrs. Miller strives to be a resource for our ELL students and their families. All of them are trying to cope with learning to live in a completely different world and culture. For example, in America, people are very time oriented. In many other cultures, time is more of a suggestion, not an absolute, so ELL students have to learn about getting to school on time, getting to class on time, and being ready to learn.

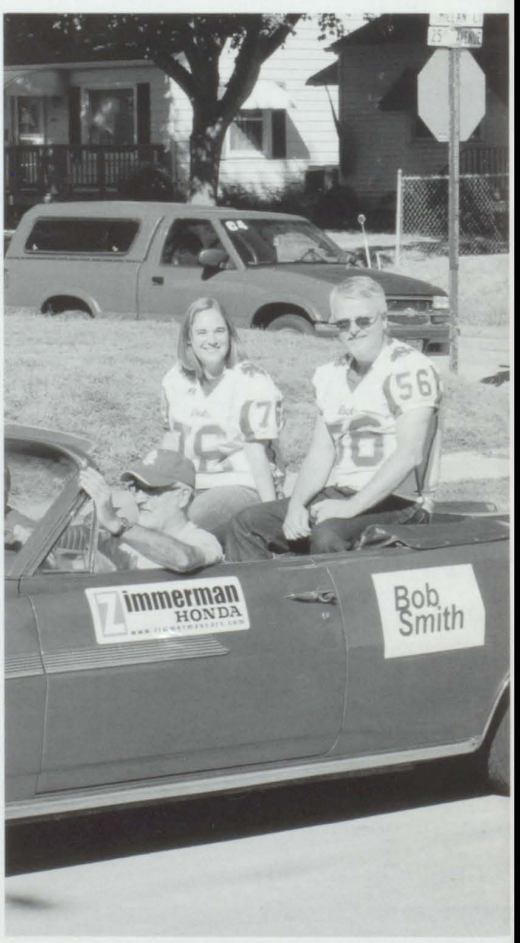
Her hope is that each of her ELL students finds a welcoming, safe place when they enter her classroom, especially when a student is brand new to this country and they start attending Rocky, and they are trying to learn English. Many of the ELL students just need a place where they can be accepted, and her goal is that they find these things in her classroom. The English language is such a complex language to learn, so she designs her lessons to help the ELL students learn English as efficiently and effectively as possible.

THE ROCKY STAFF ROCKS

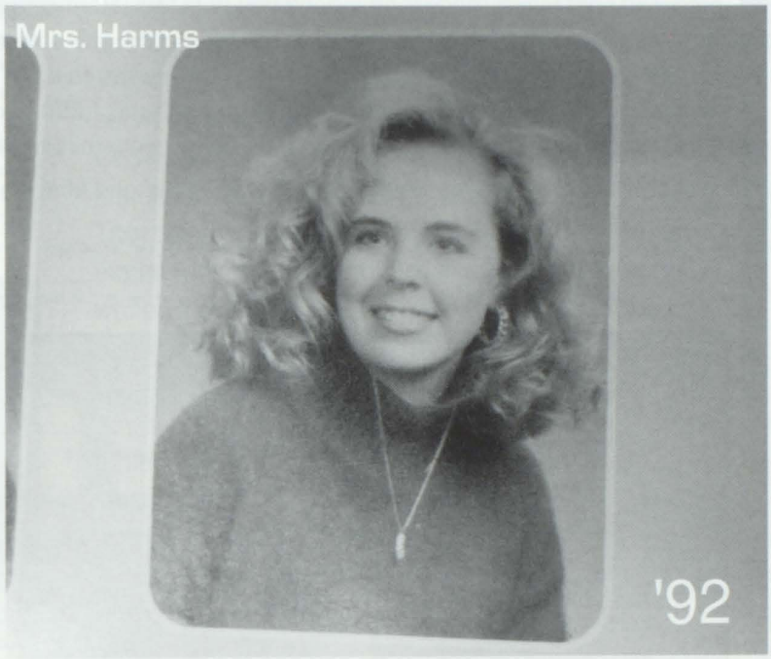


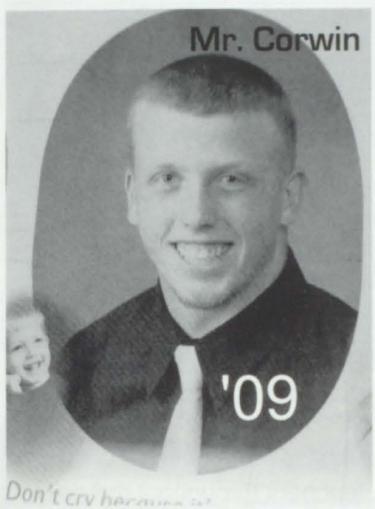


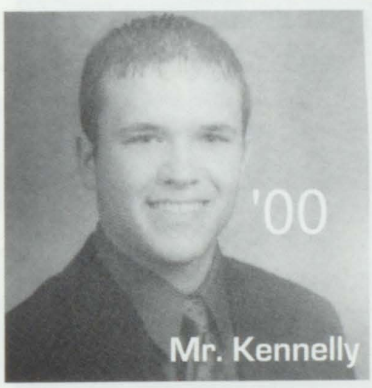


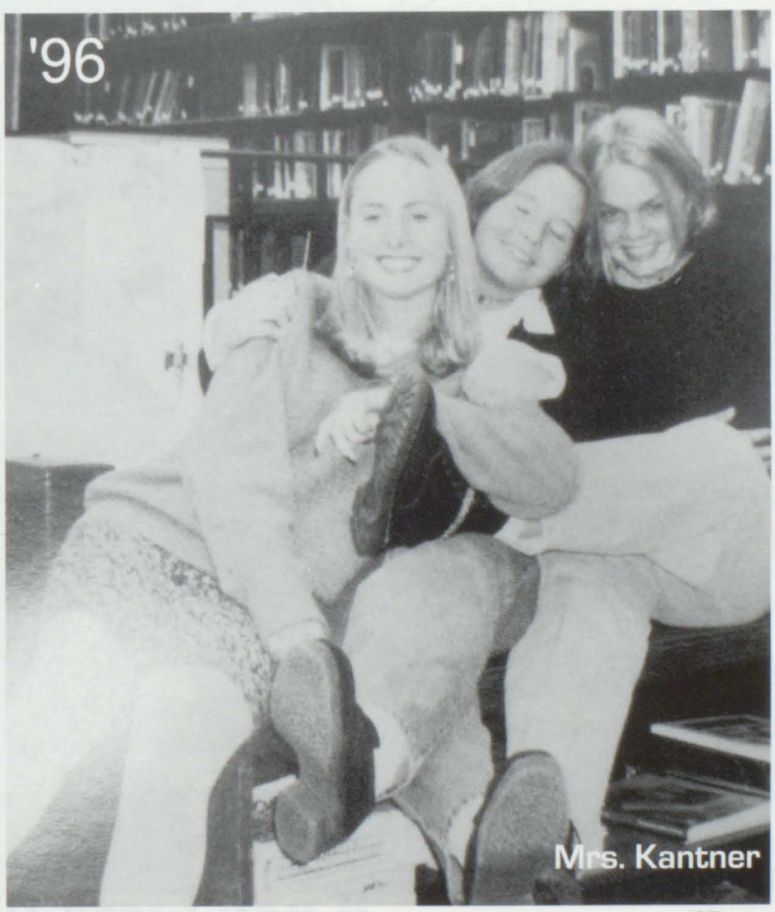


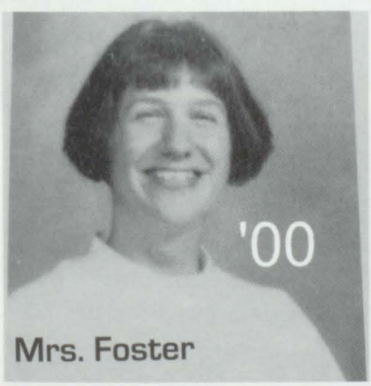
Rocky's Class of...

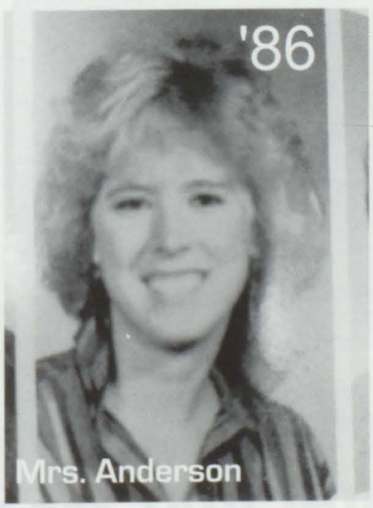


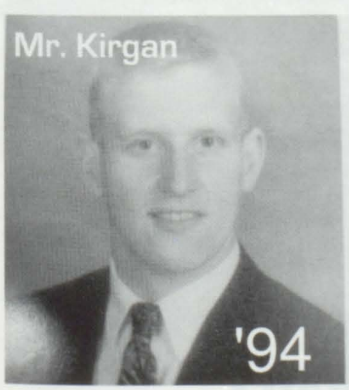












MRS. HARMS LEARNS HOW TO

All new families have to learn and appreciate change as it comes. An addition to the Harms family is going to be a whole new experience with many different challenges and joys. No April Fools jokes here, Mrs. Harms, tenth grade English teacher, is expecting her baby boy to be born April 2nd, all pranks aside.

Beyond excited, but anxious as well, Harms admits, "I'm nervous I'm not going to know what to do? Like, I know how to deal with teenagers, but I'm not used to being around little babies." She states, "I can't wait to start dressing him up and putting him in little hats." The little things are what counts; let's be honest, babies are adorable.

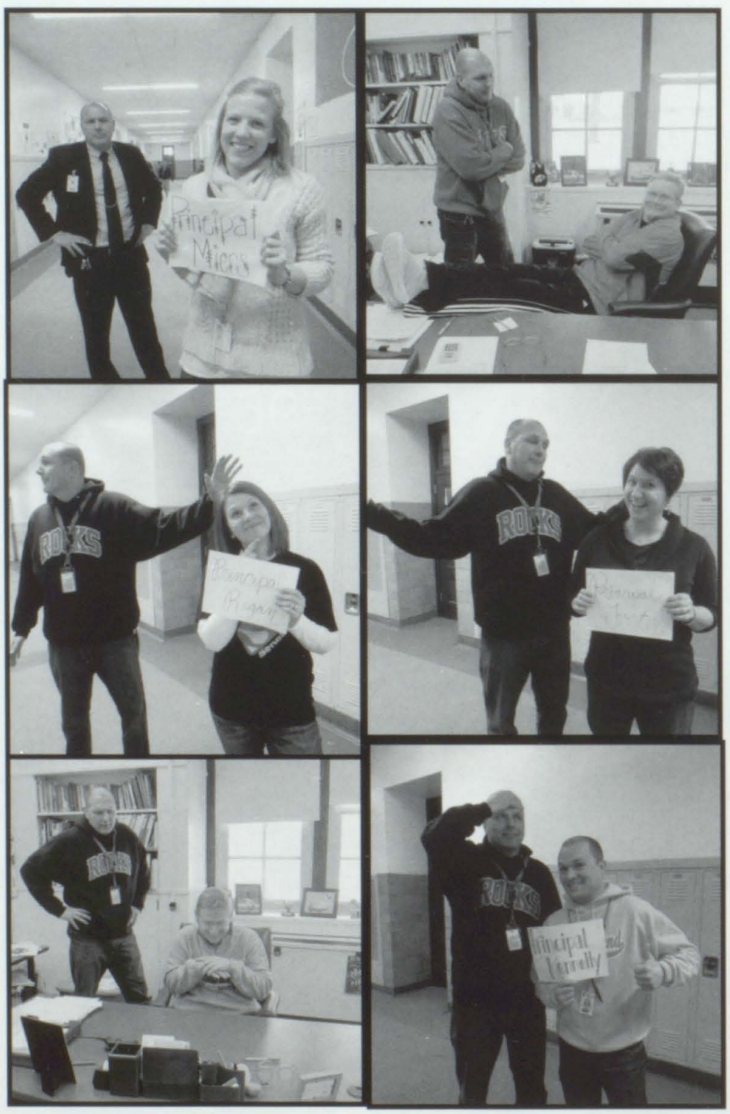
Dressing up kids is all a part of the fun, especially when Halloween rolls around. With the 31st being her birthday, Harms is no rookie to dressing up. Possible first costumes for her little boy include Atticus Finch, or obviously, a zombie based off her favorite show, "The Walking Dead." The brand new addition already has a designated place in the house, as a nursery has been set up with lime green accent walls and new furniture. With the baby coming fast, having a prepared spot to get ready for the baby boy puts Mrs. Harms' mind at ease. Understanding that anyone can never be fully prepared for a newborn, Mrs. Harms is definitely going to follow any advice she can get. "My sister said you just have to get him in a schedule. Eat, sleep, repeat. Just get a routine down," Mrs. Harms said.

Despite all the anticipation, excitement, and prep work, Mrs. Harms states, "I can read 1,000 books, but I won't know until he's here." She couldn't have explained it better. As the years fly by, we hope they enjoy every minute of it, as all of us understand how fast growing up actually goes. The whole school is excited for the new baby, and wishes Mr. and Mrs. Harms congratulations.

Ms. Miers: "I'd have a day long game of laser tag throughout the school as a staff inservice. Who doesn't love laser tag?!"

Mrs. Regan: "I'd have donuts at every meeting, and institute pajama days on Wednesdays!"

Mr. Stone: "I would bring back the Bow Tie Club for sure, and every Wednesday would be 'Wear a smile all day Wednesday'."



Mr. Leatherman: "I would take the whole day off, I'm the boss!"

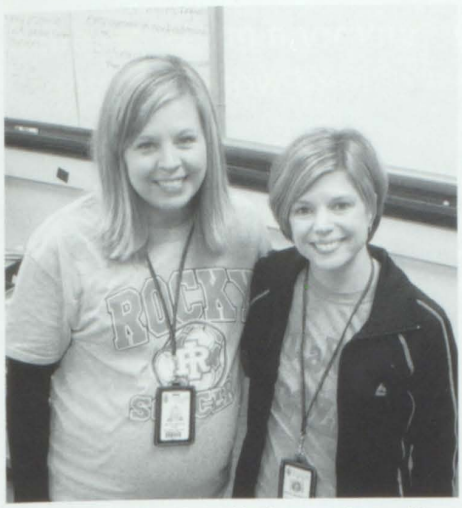
Mrs. Foster: "I'd have Student Ambassadors deliver coffee to teachers throughout the day, take away hall passes, give every student a shiny pen, and change all of the bells to barks and meows."

Mr. Kennelly: "I'd call random people down to my office over the intercom, but would turn off the lights and hide before they arrived."

What would you do...

if you were PRINCIPAL for a day?

BIG Cookie Thursday ...Matters Here

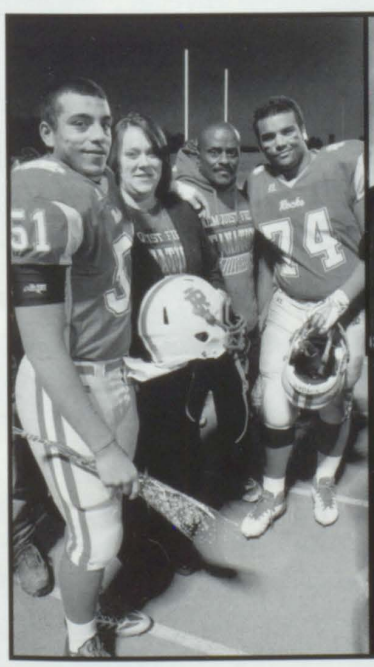


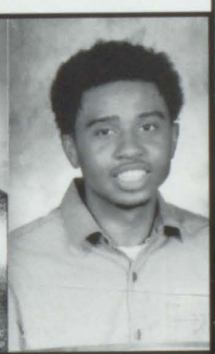
Mrs. Harms: "I love big cookies because they are big and they are cookies! That's the perfect combination. I choose the M&M cookie most often with the occasional chocolate chip from time to time."
Mrs. Mendelin: "What do I love about big cookie Thursday? There are big cookies! What else can I say? I like to change up my choice from time to time, but if I were stranded on a deserted island, with only one big cookie, I'd go for the M&M."

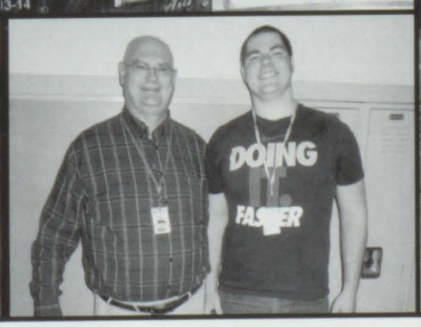
Mr. Trenary likes "the friendly service, and when I used to have a 'Cookie Date' with Mrs. Mendelin and Mrs. Harms last year. Also, it reminds me it's almost Friday. My favorite cookie is toffee, without a doubt."

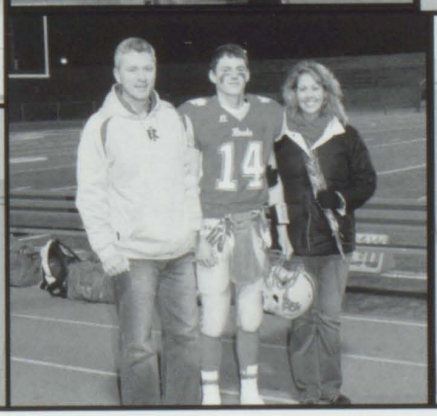
The sweet tradition of Big Cookie Thursday is sadly coming to an end. With changes in federal law, spring 2014 will be the last season for our delicious cookies. Originally organized many years ago by now retired teacher Mrs. Elliott, the Thursday treats are now managed by special services teacher, Mr. Bentsen. "It began as Big Cookie Wednesday, but after almost a year's hiatus, it began again three years ago on Thursdays, and a brand has been made!" Bentsen explained. Bentsen covers the busy five points, while Rhoda and Robert Lee Humphrey tackle the first floor staircase by the auditorium. Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey, graduating from Rocky in the late 50's, have been steadily involved with the school and its athletics for as long as they can remember. "Ever since I was a little girl, I've gone to all the football and basketball games. We sit right by the announcer's stand! Later, I was a hall monitor here, and I prayed for the kids every day," Mrs. Humphrey shared. The couple do so much for the school, including making scrapbooks and supporting all of our extra-curriculars. While the big cookies will be gone, the Rocky pride the Humphreys show every Thursday is what will be missed the most. Hopefully, they can still be found cheering on our Rocks every Friday night!

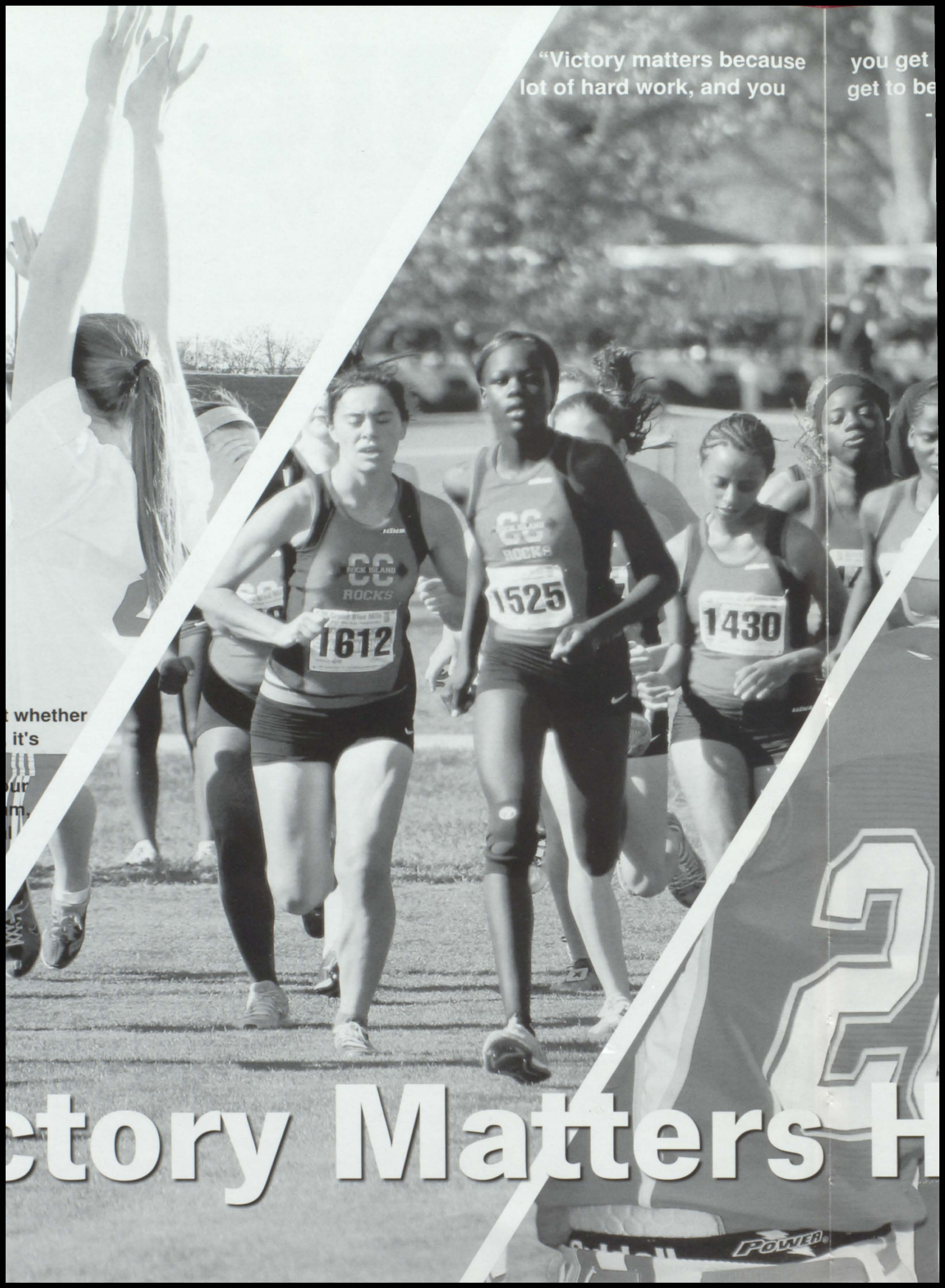
Family at the Rock











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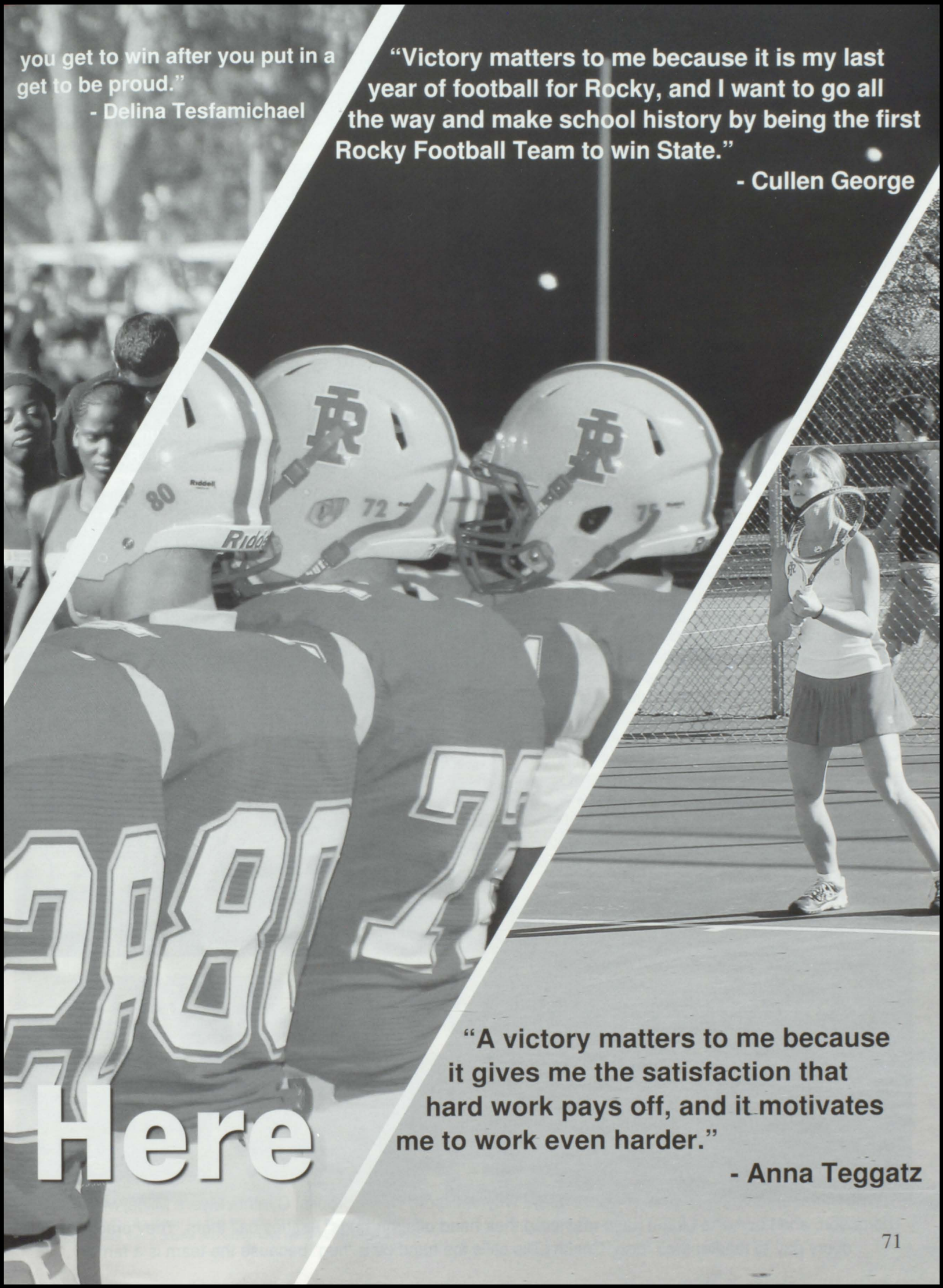

you get to win after you put in a
get to be proud."
- Delina Tesfamichael
"Victory matters to me because it is my last year of football for Rocky, and I want to go all the way and make school history by being the first Rocky Football Team to win State."
- Cullen George
Here
"A victory matters to me because it gives me the satisfaction that hard work pays off, and it motivates me to work even harder."
- Anna Teggatz

Faith Matters Here

The Rock Island Girls' Track and Field Team is too common of a name for these R.I. athletes. Determination, dedication, motivation, and faith define their experiences together. This season ended with a boom for the girls and Head Coach Michelle Lillis. "It was an amazing team effort," said Lillis. Competing with the top schools in the state, they were ready for the glory. With their seniors Troy Jackson, Olivia Brooks, Terrasia Hanes, Brianna Smith, and Chelsea Temple taking over the team, the season was in good hands. They all worked together to define and mold the team to excellence, unlike other teams where one athlete stands out. Everyone contributes to the girls' track team. "No one person alone defines the team," said Lillis. As a group, they were put to the test at every meet they attended. Many of the girls ran multiple events at every meet, and they worked hard to earn every point possible to help their team win.

Their greatest achievement of the year was the 4x1 and 4x2 meter relays both placing second in the State meet. Lacresha Linton, Olivia Brooks, Mystique Thompson, and Troy Jackson competed in the 4x100 meter relay. For the 4x200 meter relay, the only change was the addition of Cynthia Myers-Miles. Senior Mystique Thompson earned a 5th place finish in the 100 meter dash to add to the team's accolades.

Regardless of the meet, the girls competed with everything they had. "It was absolutely, indescribably exciting watching the girls place second, and break the school record for the second year in a row. That was so thrilling," said Lillis. The girls have overcome many trials and tribulations this season, but still managed to finish 13th in the State Meet.

Clearly, "team" is too simple of a word to describe this group of athletes. Their dedication, determination, motivation, and faith in their continual tradition of excellence defines them much better.

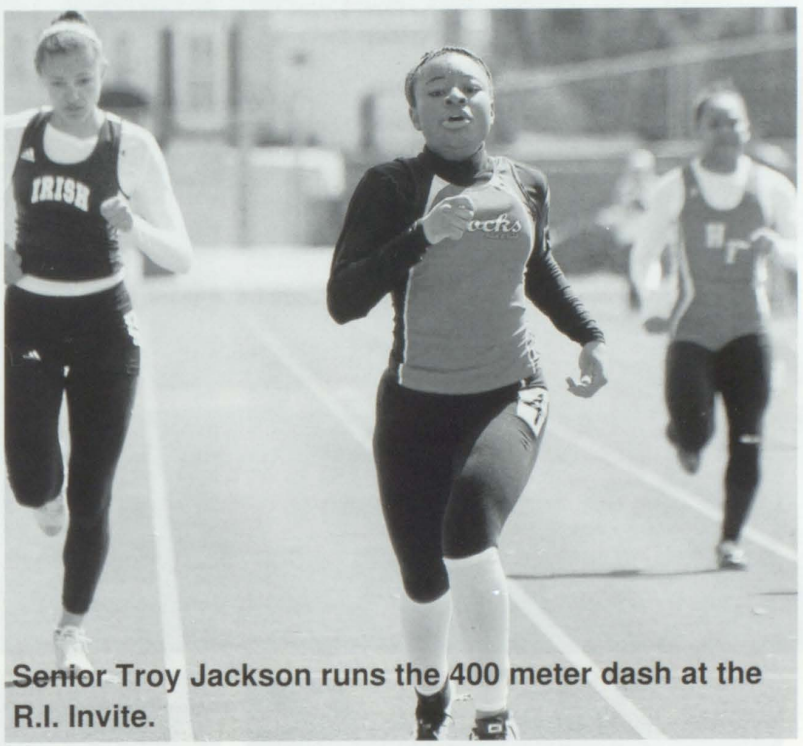
Josephine Nadukunda runs the 800 at the R.I. Invitational.

2013 Girls' Track and Field Team

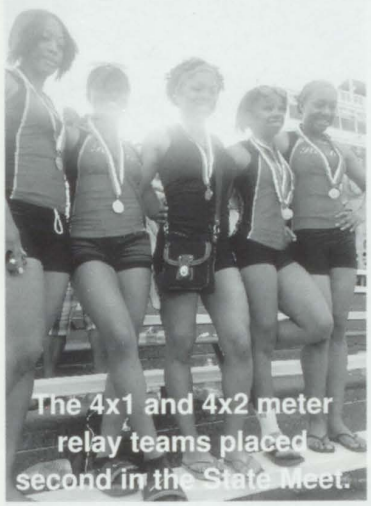
"Where a Hand Off is a Hug"

The members of the 4x100 and 4x200 relay, Troy Jackson, Olivia Brooks, Cynthia Myers-Miles, Mystique Thompson, and Lacresha Linton have mastered their hand offs, or "hugs" as they call them. They practice them every day to master their form. Coach Lillis calls the hand off a "hug" because the team is a family.

Senior Brieanna Smith competes in the shot put to help the Rocks win.



Senior Troy Jackson runs the 400 meter dash at the R.I. Invite.



The 4x1 and 4x2 meter relay teams placed second in the State Meet.

Teammates bond at the Sterling Boys' and Girls' Invitational.

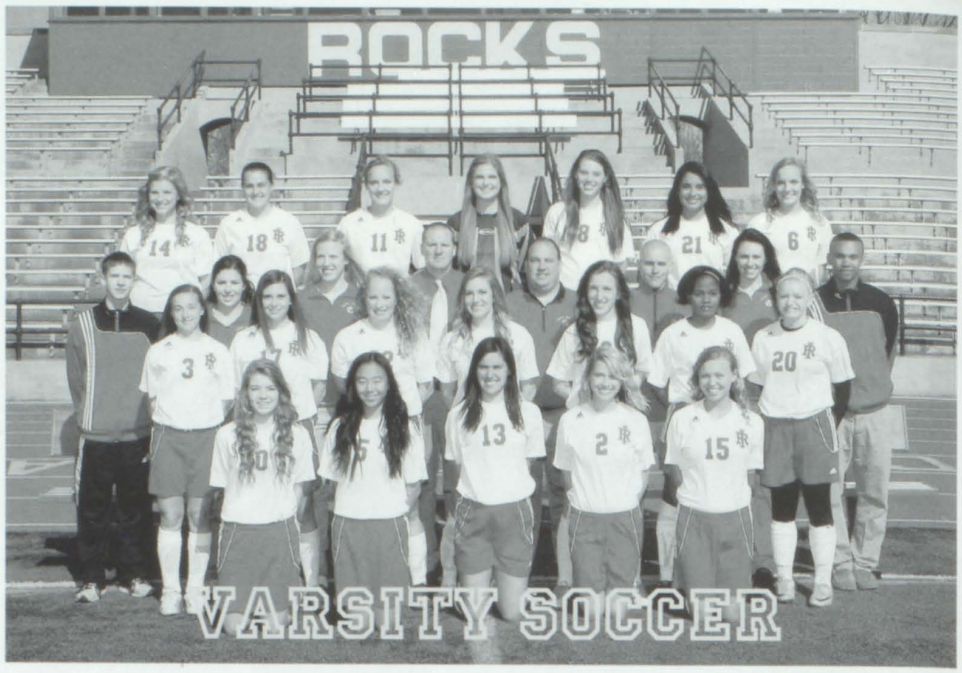
How Track Matters at R.I.H.S.

"Jumping to Victory!"
Sophomore, Mariah Hoover

"Going the Distance!"
Senior, Isabella Naab

"Vault is Life!"
Senior, Jasmine Babers

Above: Junior Mariah Anderson hurdles her way to victory at the R.I. Invite.
Above Right: Senior Olivia Brooks encourages her teammates during a meet.



Top Left: The starting line up gets pumped up before the game.
Left: The captains of the 2013 team meet with the referees and opposing team captains before the start of the game.
Above Left: Adriana Blanco runs for the ball against Orion.
Above Right: Shaunee Kirkpatrick looks to pass the ball down field.
Bottom Left: Abigail Wieland chases the ball down the sideline during a home game.
Bottom Right: Maggie Williams clears the ball.

OUR GOAL Matters Here

★★★

The 2013 Lady Rocks' Varsity Soccer Team had both a challenging and intense season. The team faced many injuries, but did not let that stop them from working hard. “I believe that we all gave it our best effort this year, along with a few bumps here and there,” said Isabel Vallejo. Throughout the season, eight girls were injured, and three had concussions, but strong leadership kept the team together, and allowed the girls to have a great season. The team captains Maggie Williams, Adriana Blanco, Abbi Wieland, and Kaylee Lindburg kept the team going. The girls looked up to them because they were leaders. “It takes a lot to be a captain. The most important qualities are leadership, patience, and strength. Captains need leadership to guide the girls because they look up to us, patience to not take out the frustration of the game on everyone, and strength to help them through a tough loss or an injury,” Adriana Blanco said.

The team wanted this year to be better than the year before, and a major highlight of the season was when the team beat Galesburg, not only once, but both times they competed. The team was also very proud of the game they played against Geneseo because everyone was working to their full potential, and did not give up.

They also had the chance to go up to Chicago, and play in a tournament to get a taste of what they need to work on for the next year. “The girls really enjoyed the experience going up to Chicago, and being able to be a part of it,” Coach Dalton states. “The girls became a whole after that, and learned how much they all need each other to really give all they got and come back strong.” They realized they can't win without all working together. “The tournament was really fun. Dinner, swimming and playing soccer. I don't think there is anything better. The team used that as a serious bonding and learning experience,” said Abbi Wieland.

“I'm really excited for next year. It's my senior year, and I can't wait to come back and compete!” Wieland included. The 2013 Lady Rocks Soccer Team learned what it takes to be successful throughout their season, which they hope to carry on in upcoming seasons.

Varsity Girls' Softball

Back Row L to R: Coach Steve Ebner, Jacklyn Young, Morgan McCready, Hailey Feldhahn, Jasmine Ragusi, Coach Jon Catterton, Coach Tom Buck. Middle Row L to R: Brooke Hart, Bri Hart, Summer Cook, Hannah Hart, Courtney Pearson, Sierra Hurt. Front Row L to R: Ashlyn Mumma, Morgan Twing, De'Aysha Walker, Alyssa Pool, Kyrstin Plohr, Kylee Villarreal, Ashley Ayala.

Softball 2013

JV Girls Softball

Back Row L to R: Coach Stacey Rohm, Breana Biswell, Lindsey Kelly, Sarah Willhite, Coach Martin Rohm. Middle Row L to R: Courtney Smith, Alyssa Fields, Hannah Price, Teya Baker, Janiah Jones, Hanna Gordon. Front Row L to R: Annabelle Gordon, Kaelan Bradley, Ali Debus, Brooke Hickenbottom, Elizabeth Moore.

Senior Jasmine Ragusi catches for the Rocks. She was a WB6 All-Conference catcher, with an impressive record of 8 thrown out runners on attempted steals.

Senior Hailey Feldhahn plays defense at shortstop. She led her team in defensive assists with 56.

Senior De'Aysha Walker bats for the Rocks. She ended the season with a .303 batting average, and a .512 on base percentage.

The Varsity softball girls line up for the National Anthem before the start of the game.

Being a senior, and on Varsity since freshman year is a great accomplishment. Three senior softball players, Hailey Feldhahn, Jasmine Ragusi, and De'Aysha Walker have had this great experience and honor. They have not only been on the Varsity roster as freshmen, but they started as freshmen, too. "It's a great feeling knowing I'm one of the only three seniors to be on Varsity since my freshman year," Walker explained. "It's a great accomplishment for all of us because our hard work paid off." The idea of being on Varsity is exciting, but could be nerve wracking at the same time. "It was an honor to be on Varsity as freshmen. I was kind of nervous being new and young, but the team came to love and support us," Feldhahn said.

Athletes always have their ups and downs during seasons, but when teammates have their back and support them, it always makes the challenges a lot easier. "All of us struggle at some point, and all we can do is encourage them, and get their confidence up for the next play or next at bat," Ragusi explains.

Sharing the same accomplishment formed a special bond between the three teammates. "Our relationship is unpredictable," Ragusi said. "All three of us are so different from each other, but we mesh so well with each other." This whole experience made the girls closer because they weren't alone. "I was scared being on Varsity when I was a freshman. Having Hailey and Jasmine going through the same thing made it easier because I wasn't doing it alone," Walker says.

In a perfect example of what a team is, the support and dedication Ragusi, Walker, and Feldhahn have shown throughout the years is truly inspiring to the underclassmen players. These three seniors have been playing together since freshman year, and they aren't just teammates, they're family. Their skill brought them together as freshmen, but their accomplishments have kept them together as seniors.

W.I.N. Matters Here

Coach Steve Ebner constantly reminded his girls that no matter what, always remember W.I.N. - "What's Important Now," a team motto. "Ebner never wanted us to dwell on the game from yesterday, or focus on games that are tomorrow," senior, Ashlyn Mumma explained. "The only game that was important was the one at that moment."

Although a lot of games were canceled because of weather, the Varsity team ended their season with a 13-15 record. "I would say our season was challenging because of some of the adversity we went through," Ebner says. Weather wasn't the only problem, but injuries were an issue, too. There were a few girls who suffered from either hip, back, or shoulder pain. Looking past all the canceled games or injuries, the team's most important memory was the 9-2 WB6 Conference win against Moline. "It felt great to beat Moline, especially because they're one of our biggest rivals," senior, Kyrstin Plohr said. Coming together to earn the victory against Moline strengthened the team.

After finishing the season, seniors Hart, Plohr, Ragusi, and Walker made the WB6 All Conference Team. Senior, Feldhahn, also made Honorable Mention. Overall, the Rocks had a good season, and strive to W.I.N. on the field, and always remember what's important now.

Soeren Sierck dribbles the ball down field.

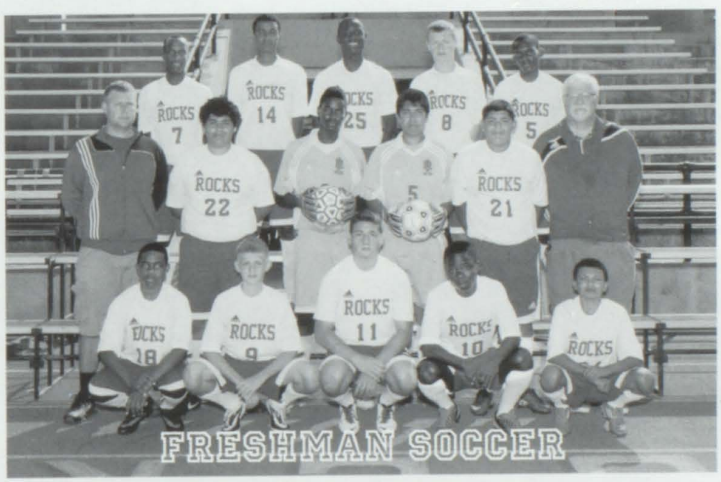
Family Matters Here

Being close is very important for a team. The Varsity Boys' Soccer Team defines themselves as a family. Team captain, Edgar Brown, a sweeper on defense, says, "We may argue and fight sometimes, but they are my family." Foreign exchange student, Soeren Sierck, said that at first, he had trouble remembering everyone's name, but now he is very close with his team. The more time these soccer boys spent together, the closer they became. They always made memories as a family. "My favorite memory was when we won the Oregon Tournament because then it came to me that this is my family, and we can do well this year," said Edgar Brown. The team's diverse make up makes the team's bond stronger. They are able to learn a lot from each other on and off of the field.

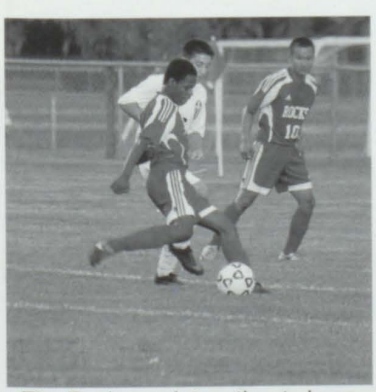
Coach Cory Dalton also said the highlight of the season was when they made history by winning the tournament in Oregon. The team's Pacesetter was Justin Freddy. The team finished their season with a record of 10-11 and 2 ties.

Front Row L to R: J. Sawadogo, C. Castenada, D. Eh, E. Tesfamichael, E. Bwe, J. Joway, H. Seet, J. Sawadogo. Middle L to R: A. Masengo, Head Coach Cory Dalton, Coach Derrick Kent, J. Bloway, H. Gay Moo, Coach Adan Solis, Coach John Schneider, J. Fredy. Back Row L to R: D. Nsengi, K. Eliyasi, O. Gordon, S. Sierck, D. Jones, E. Brown, F. Sawadogo.

Front Row L to R: S Tun, I. Floribert, J. Ramirez, B. Yeater, H. Moo, L. Moo. Middle Row L to R: Head Coach Adan Solis, J. Martinez, S. Tha, T. Angel, I. Mbanzamihigo, Q. Manary, Coach John Schneider. Back Row L to R: J. Pepping, M. Marceleno, I. Ellis, S. Green, C. Steele, S. Kennedy, P. Gay.



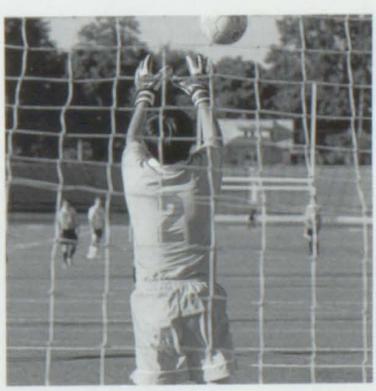
Front Row L to R: Q. Steele, T. Livengood, T. Zapata, L. Wulu, K. Lampkin. Middle Row L to R: Head Coach Derrick Kent, C. Torres, J. Mabenda, S. Dennis, R. Ruiz, Coach John Schneider. Back Row L to R: B. Mshonda, S. Gerezgiher, C. Commodore, B. Schneider, F. Havyarimana.



The Rocks work together to keep the ball away from United Township.

Chandler Steele takes a shot to score.

Justin Joway dribbles the ball.



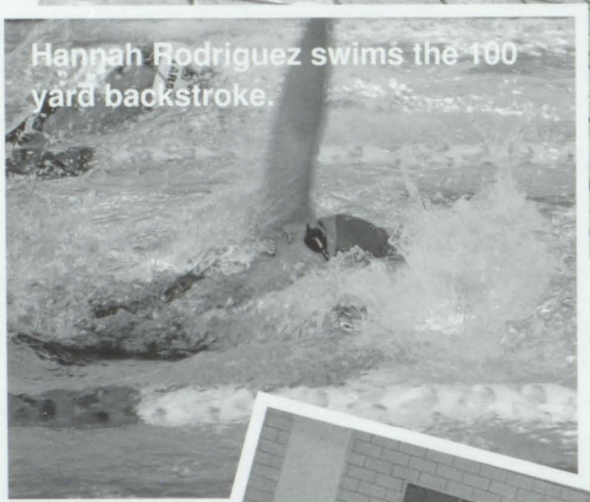
Shawn Dennis makes a save.

LADY ROCKS SWIMMING & DIVING 2013

Rock Island Girls' Swimming ended the season with a bang. The girls placed third in Conference, only after Galesburg and Moline. It was a close race for first place at the meet, where the Lady Rocks were determined to beat their top rival, Galesburg. Junior, Hannah Rodriguez placed second in the 100 free, and said, "I was really excited for this race, and when I finished because with my team cheering me on, I was able to place top six, and get a personal best time."

At Sectionals, the ladies took a promising fourth place, the highest place earned since the early 2000s. Freshman Jana Fleming placed in the top three of her four events, and weighed in on the outcome, stating, "It's really exciting for my first high school season to place in the top six at such a hard meet. The competition was tough but we pulled through with our heads held high."

With the constant improvement of the girls' swimming program in the past couple of years, the team is hopeful for the years to come. Coach Venessa Taylor added, "In the next couple years, we are going to beat the competition left and right!"

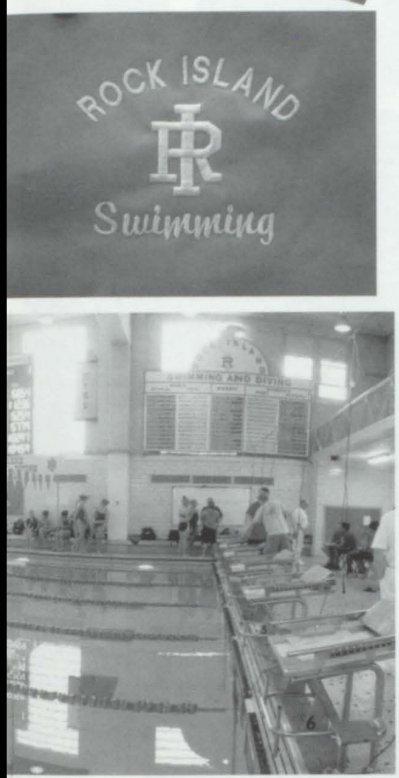


Hannah Rodriguez swims the 100 yard backstroke.

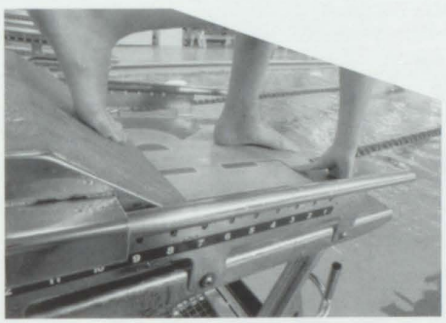
Jana Fleming swims the breast stroke during the 200 IM.

Maddison DePover dives in during the 200 Free Relay

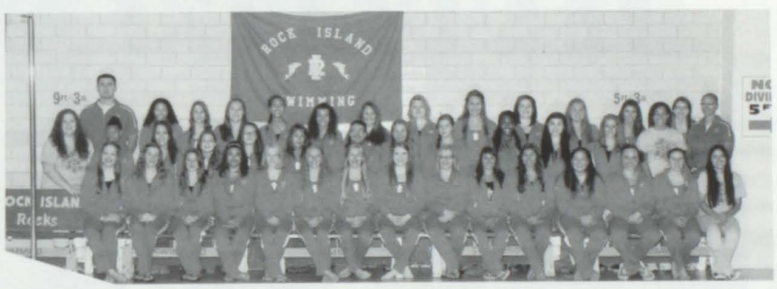
Rivalry Matters Here



Left: The captains of this year's Swimming and Dive team are Lexys Magadan, Alicia Murphy, Alicia Freiburg, and Hannah Rodriguez.



Updates to the pool have made the Rocks more competitive. New blocks and lane lines add speed and strength to the swim team.



Front Row L to R: Beth Kuehnel, Faith Karr, Sumer DaPaepe, Lindsay Mumma, Mikayla Weyers, Elaina Quilty, Jana Fleming, Alyssa Meincke, Alicia Murphy, Alicia Freiburg, Ashley Ayala, Caitleen Battin, Brandi Trice, Ana Veronda, Leslie Rangel. Middle Row L to R: Sydney Johnson, Ndikumwenimana Isabella, Karilyn Meyer, Taylor Spencer, Madison DePover, Julisa Carapia, Kathryn Snodgrass, Alexandra Axup, Hannah Hills, Mashair Yahya, Jessica Byczynski, Camryn Price, Mikhayla Hughes-Shaw, Coach Venessa Taylor. Back Row L to R: Coach Grant Bramer, Raven Clemons, Emmalee Finch, Madelaine Perry, Madison Taylor , Lexys Magadan, Brooke Hickenbottom, Summer Lindley, Hannah Rodriguez, Tatum Johnson, Chelsey Albert, Kaitlyn Serrano, Audrey Gale.

Spirit Week

Swimmers' Conference Week

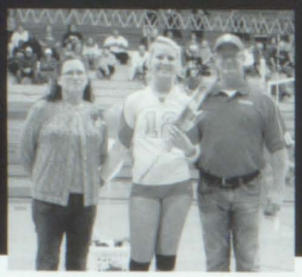
Mix-Match Monday

Twin Tuesday

"We Wear Pink" Wednesday

Red & Gold Friday

TACKY SWEATER THURSDAY



"With our team, champions were made when no one was watching."
- Hailey Feldhahn, Sr.

"Being tough isn't about being strong when times are easy. It's about being strong when all odds are against you. We had that ability."
- Ashlee Moore, Sr.

"The season had its up and downs, but this year, we really came together as a team."
- Hannah Ohlsen, Sr.

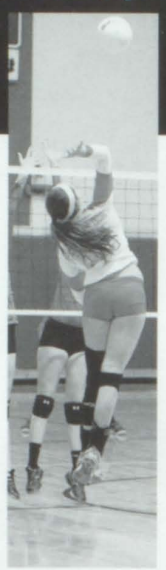
"There are no words to explain the bond this team shares. I am thankful to have shared a wonderful season with my best friends."
- Kyrstin Plohr, Sr.

Becca Thomson

Ashlee Moore

Morgan Twing

Taryn VanEarwage

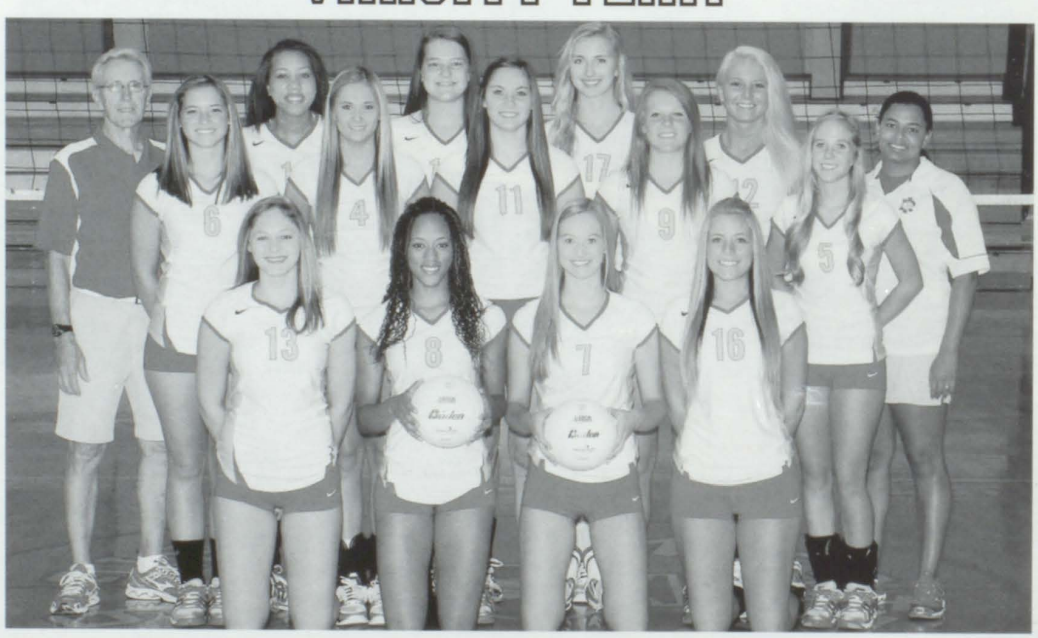


Hailey Feldhahn

Hannah Ohlsen

Kyrstin Plohr

VARSITY TEAM



Front Row: Haley Sigel, Ashlee Moore, Becca Thomson, Taylor Derry. Middle Row: Kyrstin Plohr, McKenzie Zambrano, Taryn VanEarwage, Morgan Twing. Back Row: Coach Churchill, Annika Anderson, Lindsey Steger, Hannah Ohlsen, Hailey Feldhahn, Coach Bonner.

"THE YOUNG BUCKS"

"It feels great. Not only do I get to grow as a player, but I get to help my team get better, and compete at a higher level."
- Annika Anderson

"At first, it's a bit intimidating, but once I got used to things, I felt honored and accomplished. I became more of a well rounded player."
- Daria Taylor

"I feel lucky because we're a team that has really good chemistry, and we make history every time we go out on the court."
- Haley Sigel

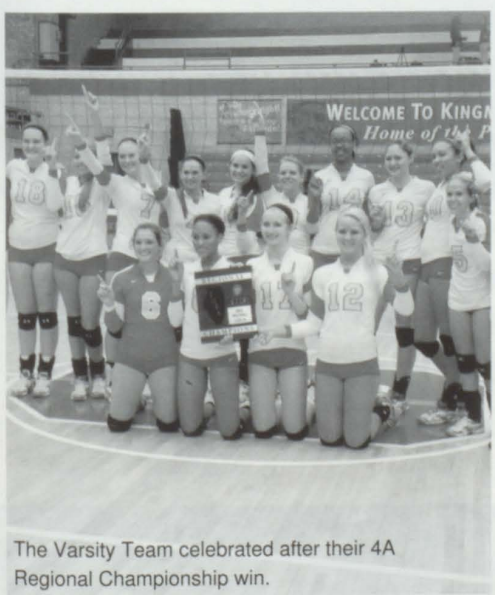
SOPHOMORE TEAM

1st Row: Kelsey Jackson, Jayde Wayland, Hannah Taber, Elizabeth Moore.
2nd Row: Brooke Hart, Teya Baker, Justice Edell, Rachel Spragg.
3rd Row: Coach Engstrom, Kaniyah Price, Annika Anderson, Daria Taylor, Haley Sigel

FRESHMAN TEAM

1st Row: Lyndsay Martel, Grace Sigler, Kaylee Valberg, Anna Bacon, Cedreahna Kennedy, Jasmine Thomas.
2nd Row: Camille Brune, Kassidy Hainline, Camryn Comodore, Kaley Phillips, Rachel Spragg, Haley Camlin.
3rd Row: Coach Helmers, Bailey Allison, Abbi Yodts, Mariah Anderson, Kylie Wymer, DayBreonna Jones, Jasmine White.

The Varsity Team takes first place in the South Eastern Louisiana University Tournament.



The Varsity Team celebrated after their 4A Regional Championship win.

HISTORY Matters Here

The Lady Rocks Varsity Volleyball Team had nothing less than a historic season. With a school record of 34 wins and 4 losses, a Western Big 6 Conference title, and beating Quincy for the first time ever, the Lady Rocks continued to make history going into their post season. Coach Churchill states, "Historic. The season has been historic."

The team's historic season all started with their annual trip. This year, the Rocks traveled to Louisiana to play at South Eastern Louisiana University. There, the Rocks competed in the two day camp, which they took first in. The Rocks also placed third in their first tournament in Macomb, which is the best they've ever placed, and won the Geneseo, Rock Falls, and Woodstock Invitationals.

Going into the post-season, the Lady Rocks were ranked first in their Regional, and competed against Ottawa for game one. "This post-season is about getting revenge. Last year, we lost in the first round, so now it's time to show the Quad Cities who we really are," said Junior Lindsey Steger. Coming out strong, the Lady Rocks beat Ottawa in two games, to go on to the Regional Championship against Minooka. A very hard fought game went in favor of the Lady Rocks. This was the first 4A Regional Championship the team had ever won, adding one more historic event to the program. "We defeated all odds, and we had the talent," said Senior Hannah Ohlsen, about the Regional win. In Sectionals, the Lady Rocks came up short, sadly ending their historic season.

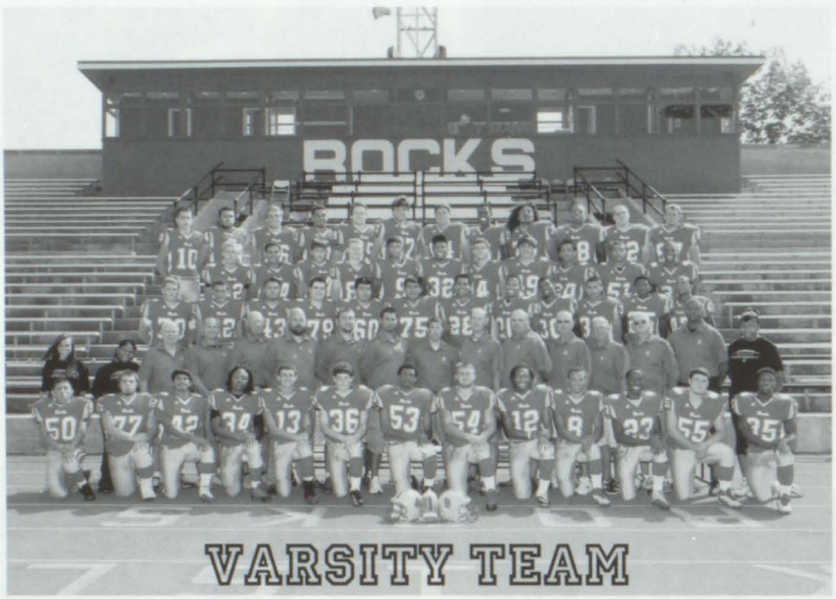
The Sophomore Team added more history to the program by going undefeated, with a record of 24 wins. "We're the first team in school history to be undefeated. I feel accomplished and proud because our team worked really well together, and all of our hard work paid off," said sophomore Haley Sigel. The team had help from three teammates who had the privilege of getting Varsity experience. "This allowed them to take on leadership roles on the Sophomore Team, and that helped achieve the first ever, undefeated, 24-0, in Rocky volleyball history," explained Head Varsity Coach Churchill.

The Freshman Team contributed to the program's success by ending the season with a winning record of 23-4, making the Rock Island program 81-8 overall.

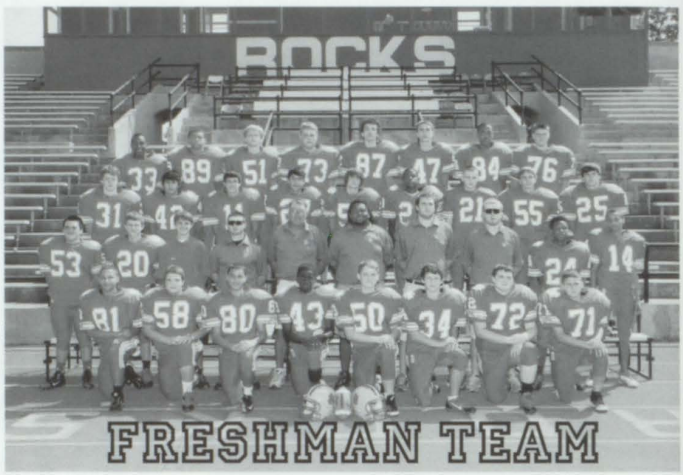
Reflecting back on the season, as a whole, every player within the program can say history was made. "I will never forget how close we were, and what we accomplished," said Rebecca Thomson. Although the season ended abruptly, the girls made themselves unforgettable. History is history. It can't be changed.

Relentlessness

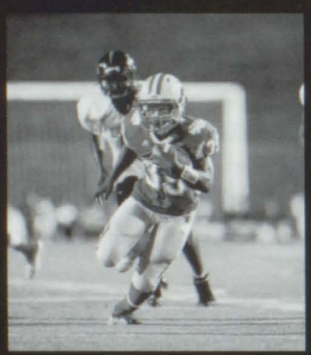
SOPHOMORE TEAM



VARSITY TEAM



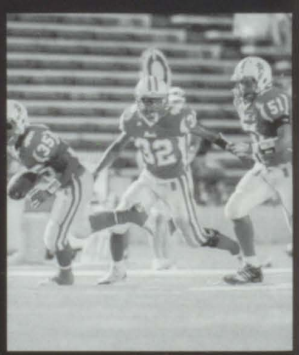
FRESHMAN TEAM

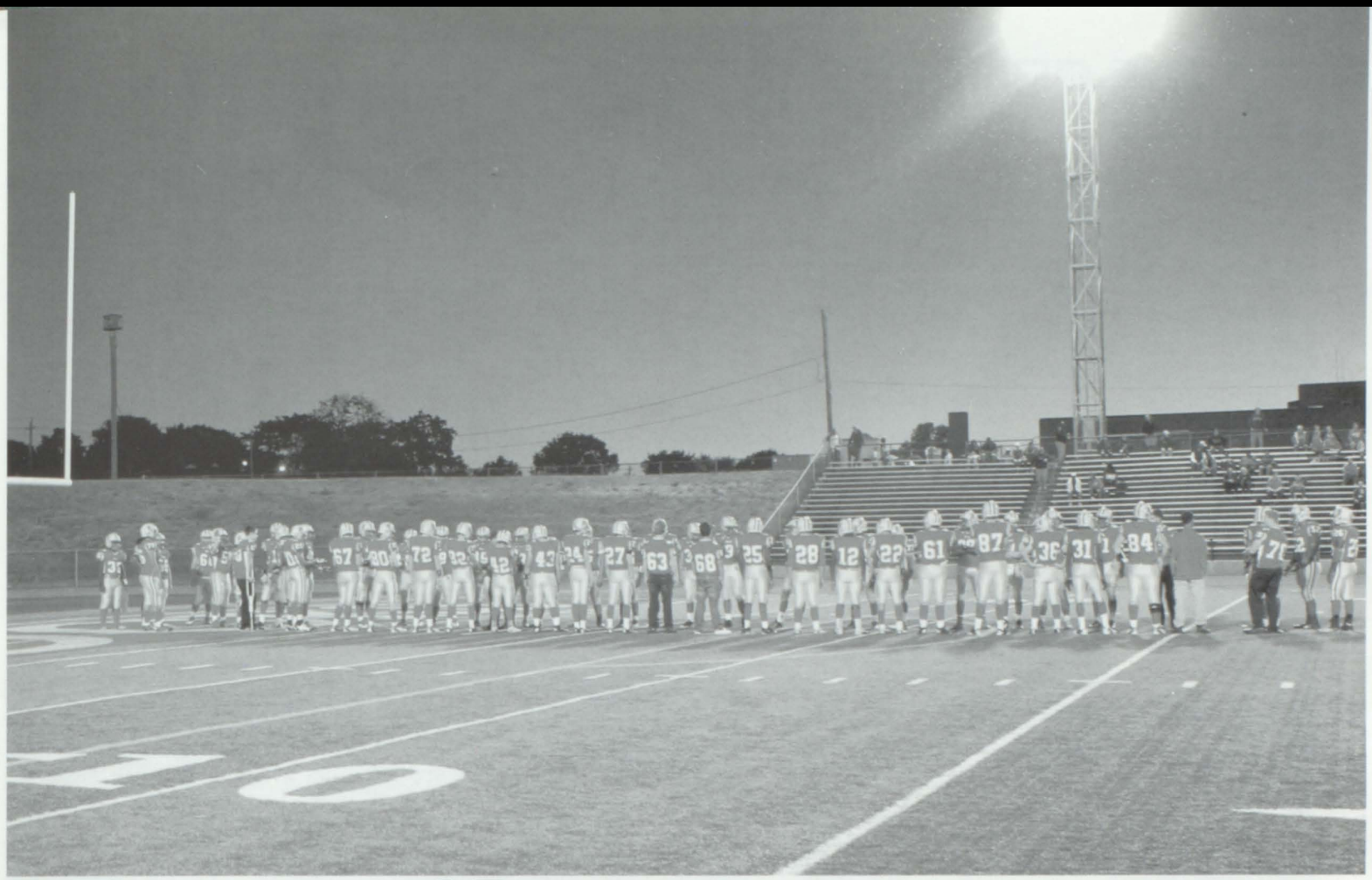

As he runs towards the end zone, Linder Divos scores one of many touchdowns.

Quarterback Trey Sigel runs through the tunnel to get ready for the game.

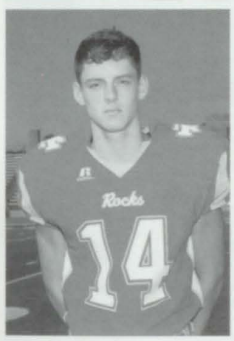
Before the game, Travon Aldridge warms up by throwing the ball to his teammates.

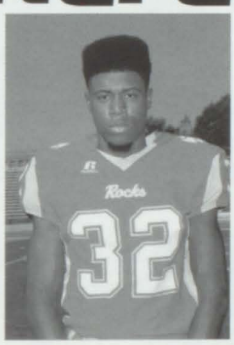
True to Rocky tradition, J.T. Jones touches the Rock before each game.


DayQwon Jones, one of the captains, makes a play for the team.



Matters Here





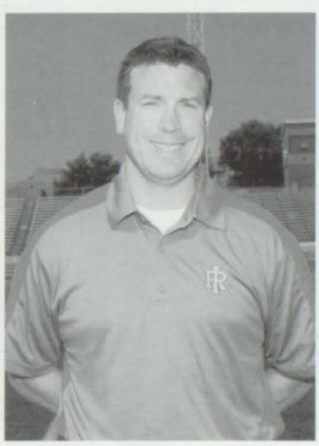
Taking Pride in Being a Captain

"As a kid growing up playing R.I. Football, all I ever thought about was getting to run out of that tunnel and play. Now I get to lead one of the best teams in that state, and it's truly a privilege."
-Trey Sigel

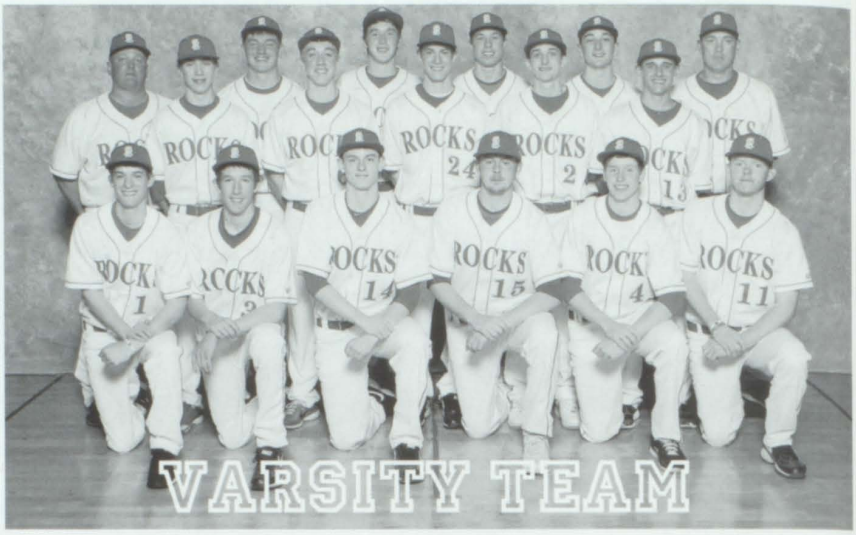
"I feel proud because they chose me to be a part of a great team that made my senior year special."
- Erinnd Blanco

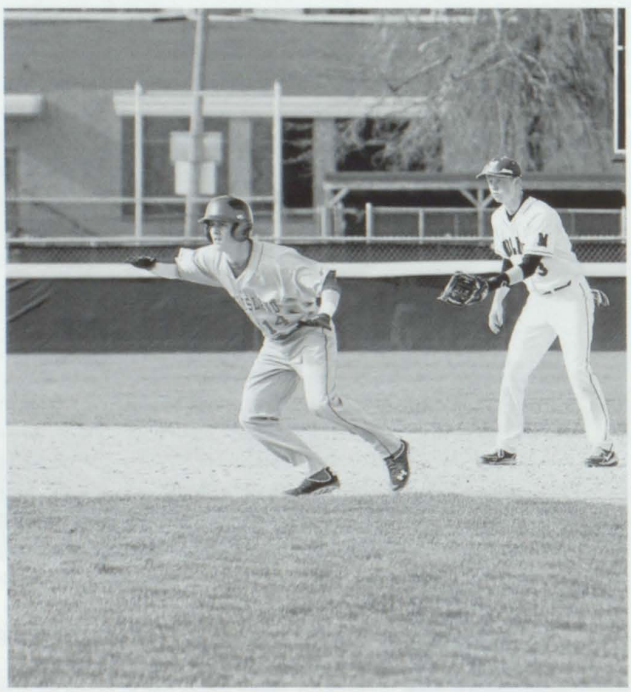
"I have a great deal of pride and honor in being a captain. It feels great to be a captain of such a fun, exciting, productive, and close program. It has affected me more than just football wise, it has affected my life."
- DayQwon Jones

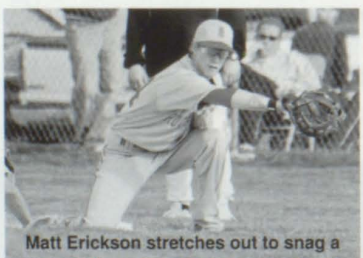
Every fall, Rock Island students and citizens look forward to the Friday night lights of Almquist Stadium. The band's playing, the fans are screaming, and the cheerleaders are showing their spirit. The players run out of the tunnel, greeted by the cheers of their spectators. The games are just as important to the people watching them as it is to the players on the field. Because of this, the Rock Island football team is under a lot of pressure. To make everyone proud and to live up to their own expectations, the team has to follow their own goals. Coach Stortz always has their goals in mind, "To dominate the competition. To honor tradition. Show up to practice on time and be prepared. And to represent our school in a positive manner, everywhere, every time they do something." These goals led them to a successful season with a record of 8-2. "Our season went pretty well. The injuries took their toll on us, but we still battled hard through it all," Coach Stortz reflected. Trey Sigel describes their team as "relentless," and that shows with how well they played their last game with six of their starters injured. "We could've improved on overcoming adversity a bit quicker. We battled, but it took awhile. Our season could've been a lot longer if we would've adjusted quicker," Coach Stortz explained. DayQwon Jones explained his feelings on the season, stating, "I honestly feel like regardless of the fact that what we wanted to accomplish, didn't get accomplished, I feel that we had a great, productive season. We all gained a lot from this past season. And, of course, I wanted to win State, but the time I spent, I'm glad I spent with my team." All in all, with a Conference title under their belts, and the experience they got with their team (or a 'family,' as captain DayQwon Jones would call it) made all of the hard work worth it.



TEAMWORK Matters Here



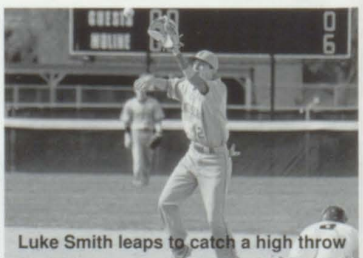




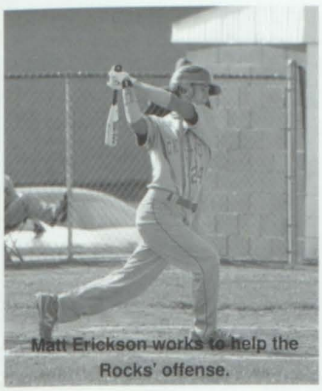
Matt Erickson stretches out to snag a pick off throw from going to the fence.

Trey Sigel singles to right field to help the Rocks' offense.

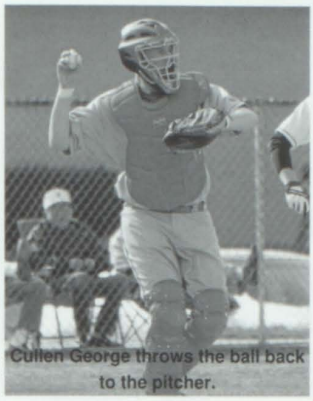
Ashton Faramelli fires a ball to second base to get the out.



Luke Smith leaps to catch a high throw to tag a runner at second base.

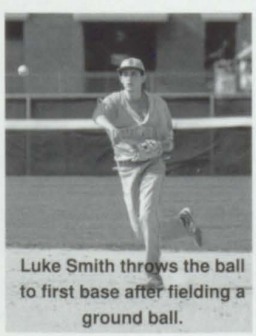


Matt Erickson works to help the Rocks' offense.



Cullen George throws the ball back to the pitcher.

Paul Sanders starts toward first base after hitting a hard ball down the line for a double.



Luke Smith throws the ball to first base after fielding a ground ball.

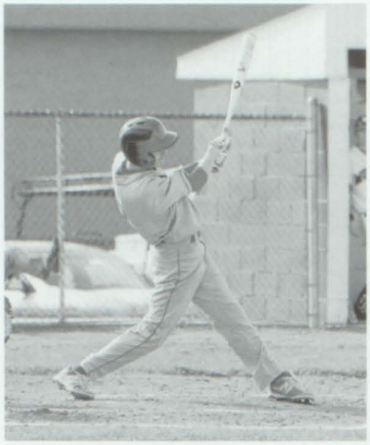
Zach Chapman fires a fastball to strike out the batter to end the inning.

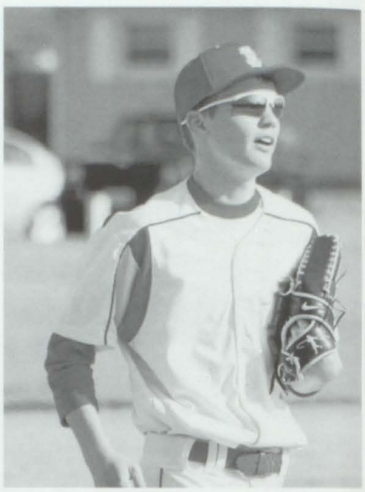
Matt Erickson reaches out to catch the throw from the third baseman.

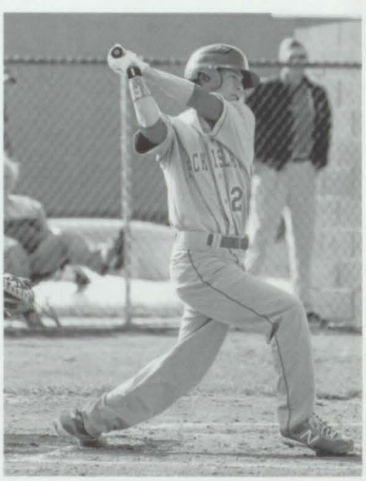
2013

Each year, the baseball team sets out to conquer every goal they set for themselves. As with any team, the goal to win a Conference Championship ranks among their top priorities. While the boys were unable to attain this goal, they did achieve something that will continue to help the team in years to come. They continued to improve on their fundamental skills, develop into a very competitive team, and understand what working as a team truly meant. This was evident in the final game of the season when they lost to Normal West, the first ranked team in the IHSA, 3-0 in the Regional Championship. The team also beat Moline in Conference play, which is always an important victory. Trey Sigel stated, “Beating Moline during Conference play was my favorite memory from baseball season because they were the favorites, and we split the double header with them.” The team ended their season with a 16-17 record, and with Zach Chapman and Cullen George earning All-Conference awards and Honorable Mention awards, respectively.

Alex Hardcastle and Grant Myers both agreed that the team bonded as the season progressed, which made a huge difference in the season. A majority of the team was made up of boys who have played together for most of their lives. This longtime bond is one of Hardcastle's favorite aspects about the season. He stated he likes "just being able to play the sport I love with the friends I have."







ROCK ISLAND BASEBALL

Progress [Matters Here]

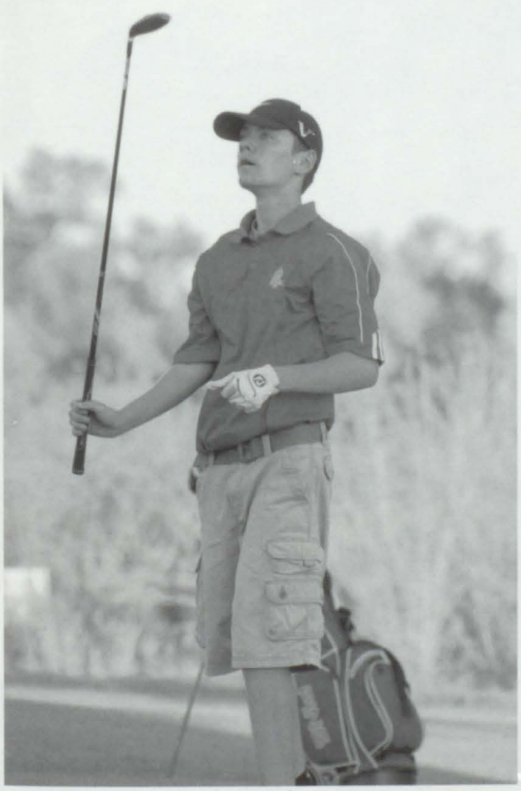
Boys' Golf swung its way into success this year. Led by Head Coach Stotts and Assistant Coach Sharp, the 2013 season kicked off on August 20th against Geneseo. "A main goal of ours is to do as well as we can in the Western Big Six Conference Meet," said Coach Sharp. The season went on day by day, and each of the players showed great progress. Junior Alex Lavery said, "Our hard work continued to improve our team through the season."

Seniors, Alec Aunan and Andy Pearson led the team as team captains. "They are both really responsible and top-notch young men," said Coach Sharp.

The team did especially well during the Western Big Six Conference Meet, earning a second place standing in the Conference.

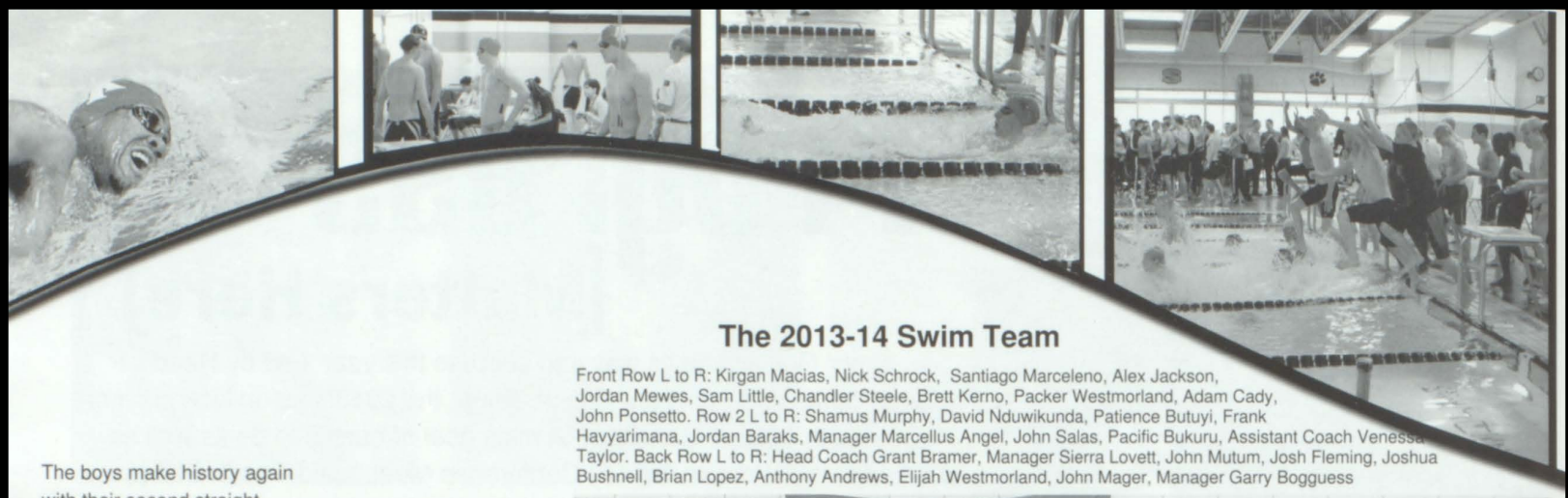
The team also had goals of having players make the post season, past the IHSA Regional. Two golfers advanced into the IHSA Sectionals, sophomore, Austin Braud and senior, Alec Aunan. Alec Aunan went on to place 40th in the IHSA State Tournament. "It was a very satisfying feeling because I had worked so hard to get there," said Alec.

The hard work and dedication the boys had during the season paid off for the 2013 team. Preparation and progress led the Boys' Golf Team to a successful season.



Top: Bailey Gaskin finishes his shot during a triangular meet.
Middle Left: Andy Pearson sinks a putt during a home meet.
Middle Right: Cade Kosche watches his golf ball going down the fairway.
Botttom: Alex Lavery examines the fairway at a meet against Moline.

Front Row L to R: Deven McKinley, Alex Lavery, Austin Braud, Kaleb Leone, Andy Pearson, Bailey Gaskin, Alec Aunan, Christopher Stone.
Back Row L to R: Coach Stotts, Nikolas Jacobs, Isaac Thompson, Braydyn Draper, Tyler VanWinkle, Cade Kosche, Coach Sharp.



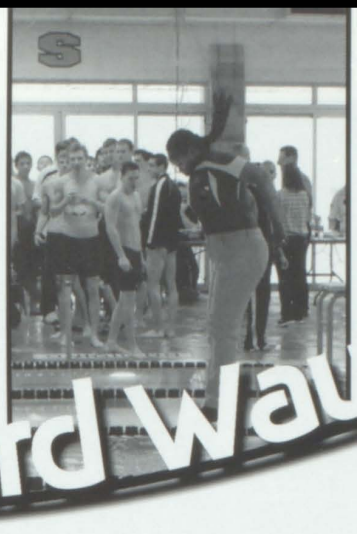
The 2013-14 Swim Team

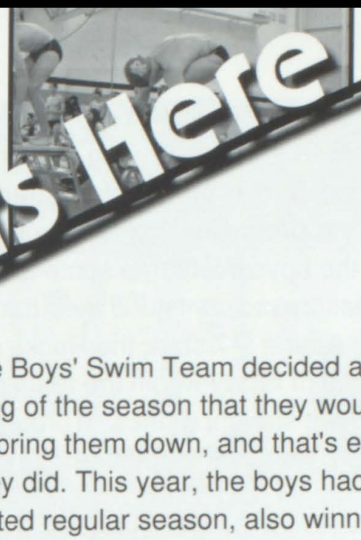
Front Row L to R: Kirgan Macias, Nick Schrock, Santiago Marceleno, Alex Jackson, Jordan Mewes, Sam Little, Chandler Steele, Brett Kerno, Packer Westmorland, Adam Cady, John Ponsetto. Row 2 L to R: Shamus Murphy, David Nduwikunda, Patience Butuyi, Frank Havyarimana, Jordan Baraks, Manager Marcellus Angel, John Salas, Pacific Bukuru, Assistant Coach Venessa Taylor. Back Row L to R: Head Coach Grant Bramer, Manager Sierra Lovett, John Mutum, Josh Fleming, Joshua Bushnell, Brian Lopez, Anthony Andrews, Elijah Westmorland, John Mager, Manager Garry Bogguess

The boys make history again with their second straight Conference win.

The team gathers in the pool to celebrate their Conference win.

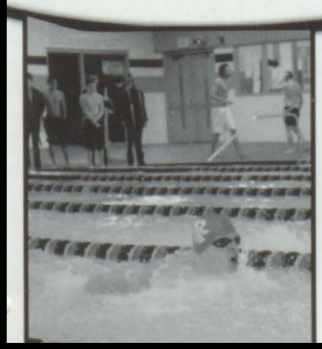
The boys chant their pump up cheer before the United Township Invite.

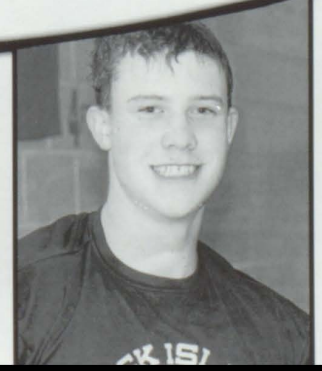


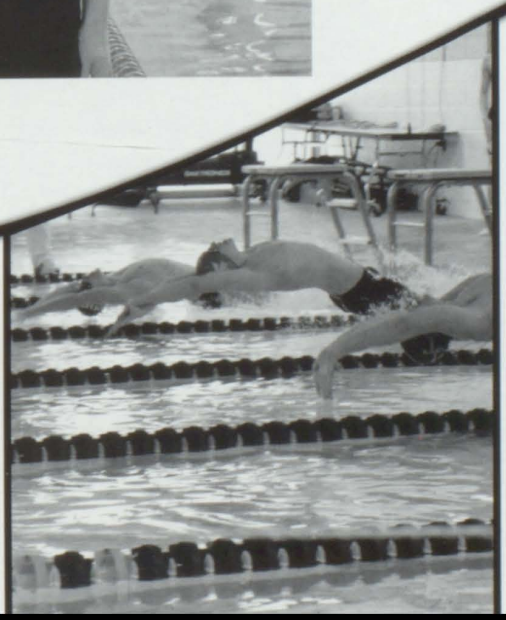


The Hard Way Matters Here

The Boys' Swim Team decided at the beginning of the season that they would let nothing bring them down, and that's exactly what they did. This year, the boys had an undefeated regular season, also winning the Conference Championship title for the second year in a row. To accomplish this, they had to do things the "hard way" and give 100 percent all the way to the final competitions. Top place finishers at Conference were junior Josh Flemming, sophomores Adam Cady, John Ponsetto, Kurgan Macias, and Luis Rodriguez. The boys also took this initiative into Sectionals. The boys ended up placing second at the meet, however that did not diminish the State qualifiers' attitudes at the Illinois State Meet. Josh Flemming, who placed 10th in the 200 free and 20th in the 100 free at State, reflected on the season as a whole, stating, "I think it was the best season we have had since Coach Bramer has started. We had an awesome team atmosphere, and accomplished a lot of our goals such as winning Conference and having an undefeated season. It was a great experience, and I am really excited for next season."







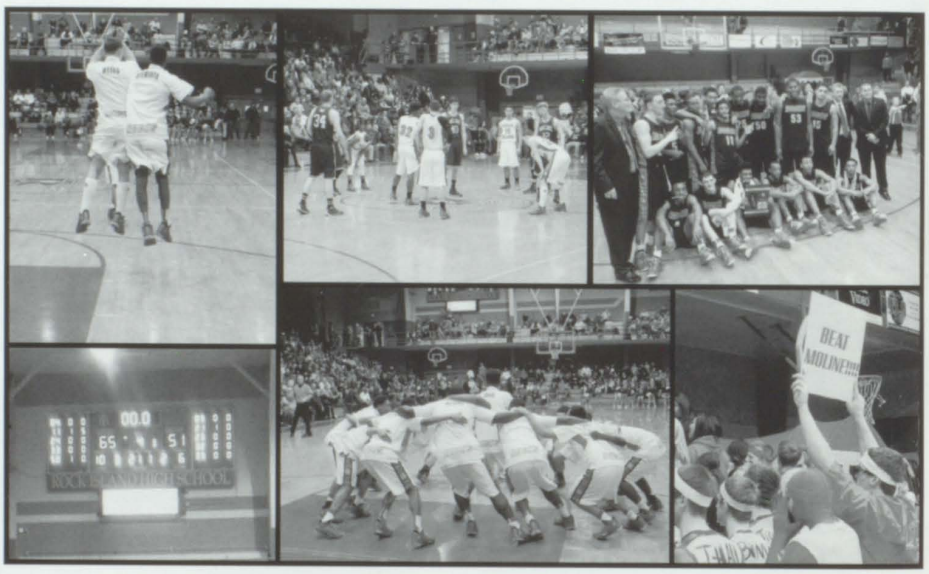
The Boys' Basketball Team continued its dominance in the Western Big Six by going undefeated, and winning its fifth straight Conference Championship. With a winning record of 19-9, the boys overcame some adversity early in the season and continued their tradition of success. After a 9-7 start, the Rocks realized the importance of family within the team and went on to win seven straight games. "Throughout everything, we stuck together as a family," said Senior Captain, C.J. Carr.

Part of that winning streak was the one point buzzer beater versus Moline by junior guard, Tyler Hall. After the crucial shot, Hall said, "I knew if I got the ball, I was going to knock it down." The Rocks won that game 60-59. Closing out the regular season, the Rocks won on Senior Night against Moline with a 64-56 victory.

Even though the regular season was over, the Rocks weren't done. The Rocks brought home another Regional Championship by beating Moline and U.T. for a third time. Head Coach Thom Sigel said, "We had a tight knit group who had fun together, and got progressively better throughout the year." The Rocks faced a tough loss in the Sectional semi-final against Normal Community to the end their season.

From the beginning, becoming a family was a necessity for the Rocks' success. From team dinners every Thursday night, to breaking out to "Family" on three, the Rocks never lost sight of their goal. "Family was important because we needed trust, and we needed chemistry in order for everything to mesh," said Senior Captain, Trey Sigel. The Rocks finished their winning season with a Conference Championship, a Regional Title, a final record of 19-9, and a family bond that the players and coaches will always remember.

Front Row: Manager Logan Enstrom, DayQwon Jones, Jason Jones, C.J. Carr, Travon Aldridge, Prince Dilworth, Larry Dixon, and Shawnta Gary.
Back Row: Head Coach Thom Sigel, Assistant Coach Logan Wynn, Trey Sigel, Keenan Shorter, Tyler Hall, D'Angelo Hicks, Corshaune McDuffy, Grant Myers, Assistant Coach Rod Leatherman, and Equipment Manager Conan Dalton



FAMILY

Front Row: Jerry Hacker, Jay Richardson, Corey Freeman, Jason Jones, Casey Comodore, Alize Ivy, and Kaleb Awalt.
Back Row: Coach Colvin, C.J. Neville, Andre McKinney, Alonzo Cole, Coach Baker, Will Miles, Aaron Crose, Zach Leatherman, and Coach Johnson.

Front Row: Kobie Davis, Jacob Tauke, Tywuan Hampton, Jacob Ellis, Brady McCready, Mario Forrest, and D'Angelo Steele.
Back Row: Head Coach Keith Beck, Preston McDowell, Trenton Banks, Aleks Jacobs, Hunter Neyens, Ramon Taylor, Fernando Ramos, Connor Dusch, and Assistant Coach Charles Butler.

Far Left: The Varsity team lines up for the National Anthem.
Left: D'Angelo Hicks reaches for the tip off at the beginning of the Alleman game.
Below: The starting five prepare for their game at Moline. The Rocks left Wharton Fieldhouse with a 60-59 win.

"We endured tough losses early in the year to good teams, and that helped us throughout the season."
Senior Captain, Trey Sigel

"We're unbreakable. Through all of the bad times and close games, we stayed together and overcame adversity."
Three Year Varsity Starter, Keenan Shorter

"We're a family. We care for each other, and have each other's back."
Senior Captain, C.J. Carr

Matters Here

The Dream Matters Here

What does basketball mean to you?

"I'm not exaggerating when I say basketball is my life."
- Shamia Clark

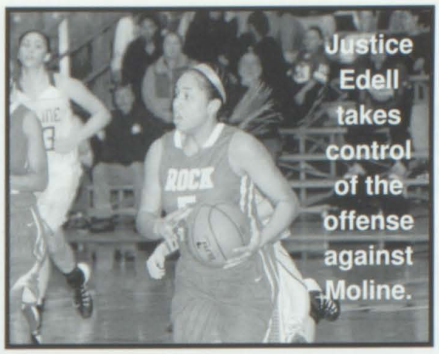
"Making friends and staying in shape, especially with healthy competition from all over the state."
- Jacklyn Young

Front Row (L to R): Shamia Clark, Alyse Tate-Mgr., Annika Anderson, Coach Parker, Coach Hoover, Coach Hall, Coach Hoeppner, Mercedes Jackson, Timesha Miles. **Middle (L to R):** Charlesrka Singleton, Precious Davis, Marshauna McQueen, Morgan Twing, Justice Edell, Angel Parker, Jazmiah Quinn, Jennifer Eckert. **Back (L to R):** Carlee Hoover, Cynthia Myers-Miles, Bre Harrington-Mgr., Quavanese Teague, Khaliyah Randle, Shawndrea Young, Mariah Hoover, Jacklyn Young.

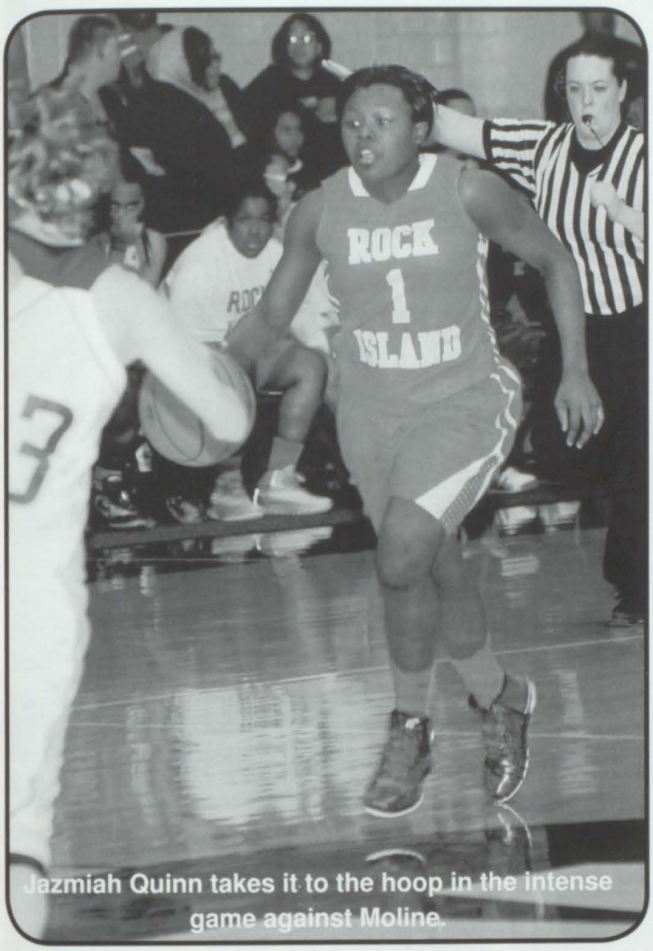
Front Row (L to R): Coach Vanerstvelde, Agok Ayuen, Daria Taylor, Kelsey Bagley, Coach Hoeppner. **Middle Row (L to R):** Janiah Jones, Asia McMeans, Asya Morrison, Lexus Houston, Emma Knuckey, Kassidy Hainline. **Back Row (L to R):** Markyia William-Miles, Betty Hall, Nadia Trice, Mariah Anderson.
Not Pictured: T-Nauzhae Robinson.

Terah Johnston looks to pass the ball during a game against U.T.

R'Manee Angel goes to the hoop against United Township.



Justice Edell takes control of the offense against Moline.



Jazmiah Quinn takes it to the hoop in the intense game against Moline.

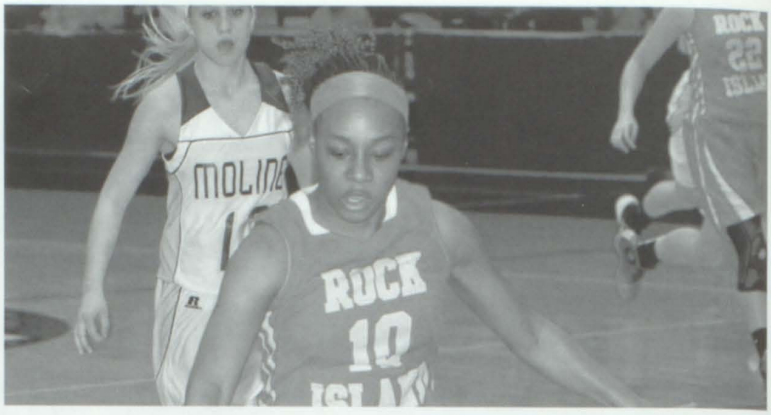
THE DREAM Matters Here

Despite having a lot of young players on the team, the 2013-14 Lady Rocks accomplished a great deal. The team had twelve returning underclassmen, ready to continue their goal of reaching their team's dream. The team boasted a record of 19-9, with an 8-2 record in the Western Big Six Conference. Among all of the team's accomplishments, they continued to improve. “We have some young players that had to grow, but we still were able to win games and have a successful season,” said Coach Hoover.

The girls had a tremendous year, and did not back down from any challenge they faced. They worked together as a team to make their dreams happen. They won the Western Big Six title for the third straight year. “My team played really hard. We worked together and did what we needed to do as a team,” said player, Jazmiah Quinn.

Although their season was cut short, they still had a lot of heart and very hard working seniors, including Carlee Hoover, Jacklyn Young, Shamia Clark, and Charlesreka Singleton, who proved themselves as leaders throughout the year. Although the team will be losing these great seniors, they still have a strong team for the next year, who are ready to take on their dream again.

Front Row (L to R): Emerald Jones, Camryn Comodore, Magan Anderson, Shakeria Barnett, Melanie Anderson, Tyshae Mulica, Keniya Lewis. **Back Row (L to R):** Head Coach Moses Robinson, Diantha Kelley, Mariah Carter, Mikayla Reed, R'Manee Angel, Terah Johnston, Kylie Wymer, Mwavita Neema, Leigha Sabban, Ivana McCormick.


ROCK
10

22

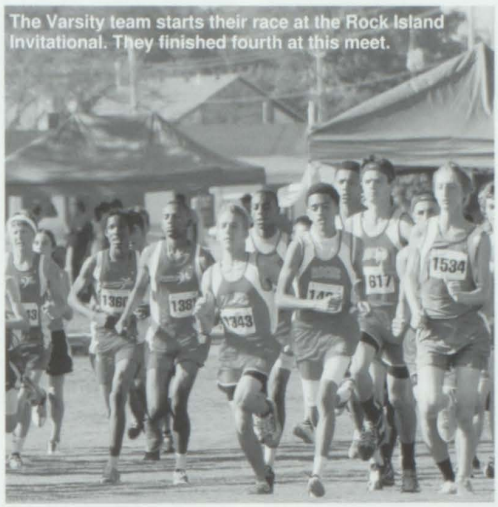
MOLINE
MAROONS

ROCK
11
ISLAND

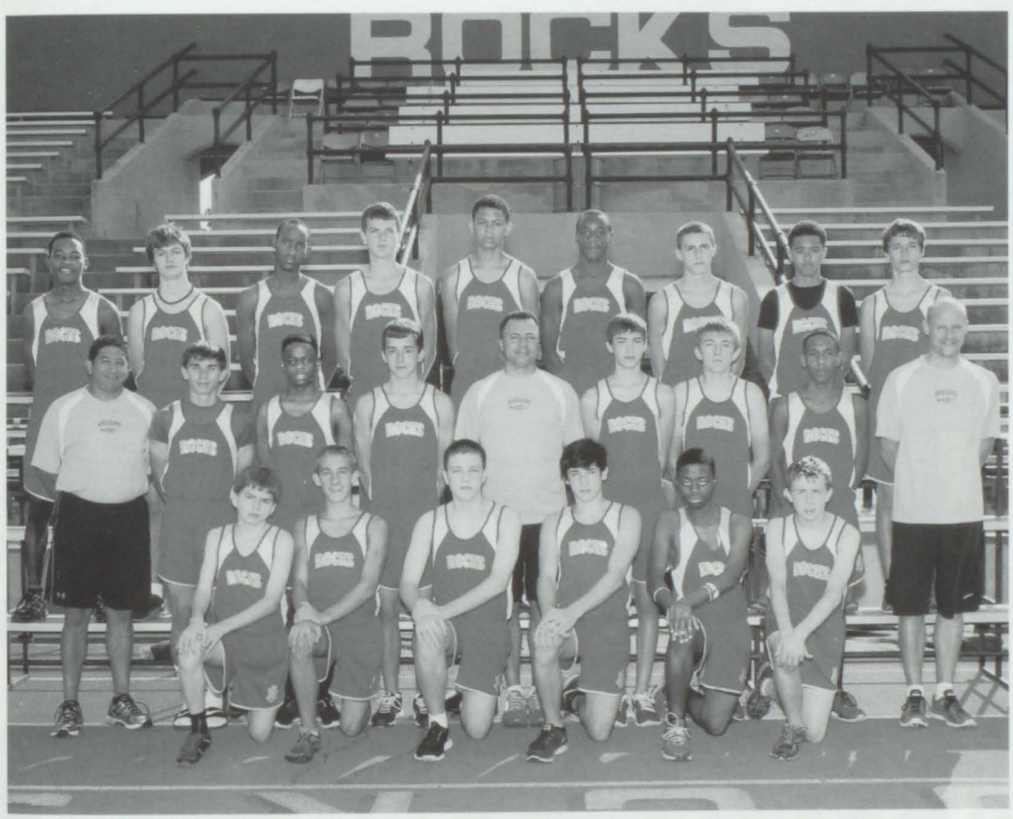
ROCK
12
ISLAND

Pace Matters Here

Junior, Mugisha Fashingoma, runs at the Rock Island Invitational. He was the team's number two runner.



The Varsity team starts their race at the Rock Island Invitational. They finished fourth at this meet.

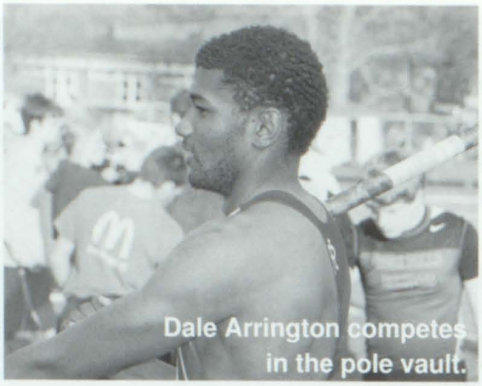


Front Row L-R: Dylan Fiedler, Pearson Kerchner, Colton DeSmet, Zach Gray, Adam Stire, Stephen Krahling. Middle Row L-R: Coach Joe Lopez, Ian Washam, Honore Lopaka, Cameron Green, Coach Dave Terronez, Jacob Benson, Ian Lambert, Malik Wallace, Coach Jeff Duster. Back Row L-R: Simon Ndabishuriya, Ben Hicock, Mugisha Fashingoma, Cole Neder, Ahlee Nettles, Prince Dillworth, Thomas Ramirez, Josh Hathorn, Logan Haskill.

Above: The Boys' Cross Country Team breaks out after a team huddle. A team huddle is a tradition before every meet.

Above: Cole Neder runs at the Rock Island Invitational. At this meet, he finished in eighth place.

In order to have a successful cross country team, it takes hard work and dedication. The Rock Island Boys' Cross Country Team was able to accomplish all of their goals because of their successful leaders, who set a great example for the new runners. The leaders were seniors, Thomas Ramirez and Cole Neder. These two have been a part of the team since their freshman year. "They were a couple of the best leaders the team has had in seven years. They led by example, and showed a lot of improvement from freshman to senior year," Coach Dave Terronez said about the duo. Last year, Cole Neder, did not make it into the top seven, however, through dedication, and putting in a lot of miles, he was able to get ninth place at Conference. This was a great memory for Coach Terronez. By the end of the season, the team's goal was to make it to Sectionals, and run the fastest times of the year. The boys were able to accomplish all of their goals that their coach set for them. "I think the team accomplished these goals by believing in the coaches and the training program. They worked together to help each other achieve goals. It was the best teamwork I have seen in the last seven years I have been coaching," Coach Terronez said. These two leaders have set a great example for future runners on the team. "We have five returning runners for next season, three juniors, one sophomore, and one freshman, and another freshman and sophomore as our eighth and ninth runners, so the future looks bright," Terronez stated proudly. The team is very proud of their accomplishments this year, and is enthusiastic about their future.



Dale Arrington competes in the pole vault.

Thomas Ramirez finishes the 4 x 800 Relay.

Cole Neder competes the 4 x 800 Rel

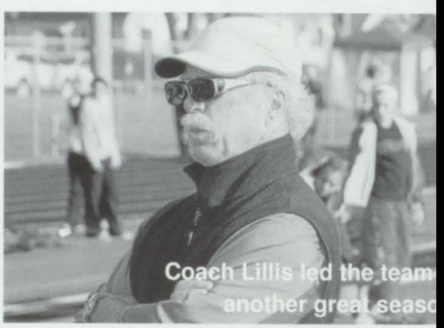
Travon Aldridge represents the track team in the long jump event.

The team warms up before their meet to m sure they are ready to compe

DayQwon Jones competes in the long jump.

Charlie Sparkman competes in the hurdles the Roc

Andres Terronez competed on the 4 x 800 Relay Team.



Coach Lillis led the team another great seasc

Tommy Bustard throws the discus at a meet.

Marcus Jackson competes for the Rocks as a hurdl

DayQwan Jones lands in the long jump pit for a first place finish at the Sterling Invitational.

Bottom Left: Doug Wilson passes the baton to Chris Ehimwenmen in the 4x200 Relay.
Bottom Right: Travon Aldridge, Doug Wilson, and Coach Williams are ready to compete at the Sterling Invitational.

Determination Matters Here

In order for the Boys' Track Team to accomplish their goal, it took determination from the whole team. From training in the off-season, and practicing to the best of their ability, the team won the Quad City Indoor to kick off their season. With determination from the whole team, and leadership from DayQwon Jones, Brandon Richardson, Charlie Sparkman, Ben Kochuyt, Chris Ehimwenman, Travon Aldridge, Jamal Morrow, Mario Holman, and Erik Ikundro, the team competed well against their opponents. These leaders stood out by staying focused on their goal to win Conference, even through bad weather and injuries. With determination and focus from their whole team, they met their goal. This was the second year in a row the team won Conference, and the 17th time in the last 23 years. The accomplishments did not stop there, the 4x200 Relay Team won at Sectionals, and qualified for State. The relay team included Charlie Sparkman, DayQwon Jones, Brian Richardson, and Chris Ehimwinmen. Once again, Rocky's Track Team proved that great determination results in great achievements.

Rock Island
ROCKS

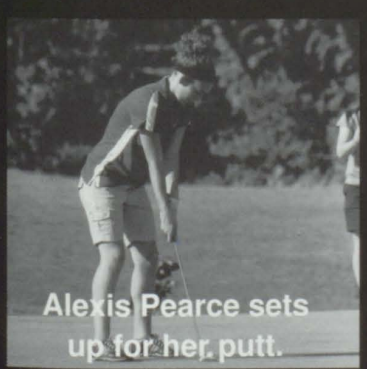
Top Left: Emma Knuckey, Molly Thompson, Alexis Pearce, Mrs. Thompson
Bottom Left: Caitlyn Milefchik, Taylor Sadoro, Carisa Pierce, Jalisa White.

Change Matters Here

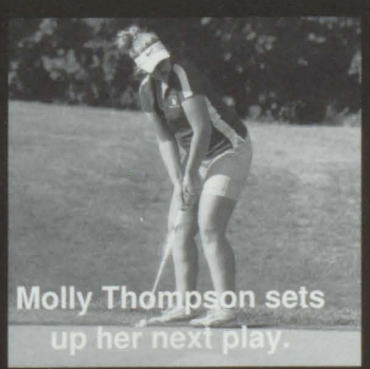
For Rock Island High School's Girls' Golf Team, one word can describe the entire season: change. This year, with the addition of a new coach, Shari Thompson, the team had to adapt and accept a lot of change. "Mrs. Thompson is a great coach, and is really supportive," says sophomore Alexis Pearce. Although, the team's record is 1 win and 12 losses, Coach Thompson says, "We concluded our season with four freshmen, and the others who had very little varsity experience. We did very well as a team, and had our best team score at the Western Big Six Conference Tournament." Everyone on the team performed really well and dedicated a lot time and hard work to getting better. This hard work was exemplified by junior, Molly Thompson, and sophomore, Alexis Pearce. "I've been involved with golf since I was a kid. I enjoy playing it, and it really interests me," Molly Thompson explained. "Molly Thompson and Alexis Pearce are great leaders. They were returning players who had positive attitudes and tried to motivate and pass on that attitude to the rest of the team," Coach Thompson explained.

The year, as a whole, was a unforgettable experience and made the girls become even closer as a team. They hope to carry on that positive attitude over to next season and improve on everything they have accomplished.

Emma Knuckey focuses on making a putt.

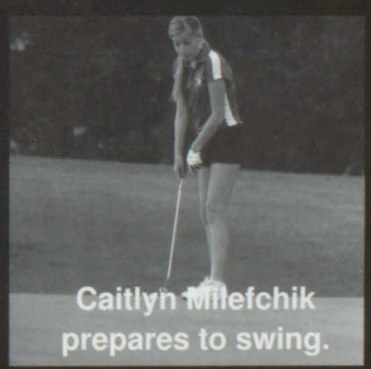


Alexis Pearce sets up for her putt.



Molly Thompson sets up her next play.

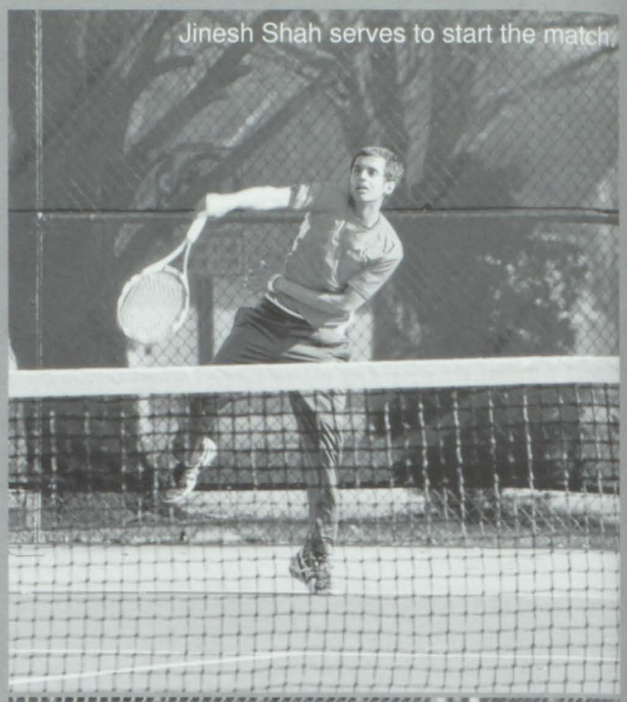
Carissa Pierce finishes her swing.



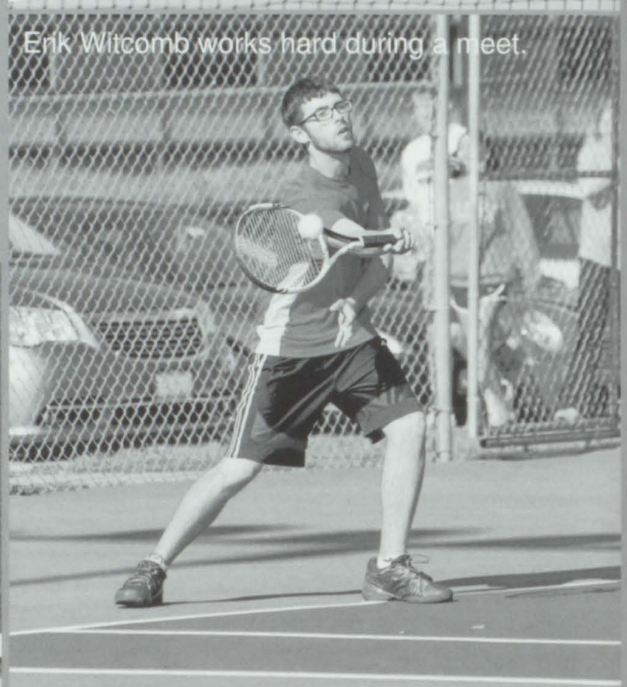
Caitlyn Milefchik prepares to swing.

Unity Matters Here

With individualized sports, sometimes the team atmosphere gets lost, or takes a second place to the goals of each player. Remaining united was a huge accomplishment for our boys' tennis team this year, as well as remaining competitive. "I think the team grew as a cohesive unit, which in our eyes is the biggest achievement of all," senior Jinesh Shah commented on the season. With leaders Lindsey Sutter, A.J. Clay, and Jinesh Shah, the team aspect really appeared during practices, when players had time to work on technique together. "They knew how to have fun, but at the same time, knew when it was time to be serious," assistant coach Mr. Gabany explained. The same kind of unity appeared in meets as well, with players cheering each other on during matches, and motivating each other. With a promising upcoming season, the returning players are looking forward to some fresh faces."There are some very talented freshmen this year with whom I'm very excited to play doubles with," says Shah. Becoming closer than ever, this team is ready for new additions, and even more chances to stand united against competition.

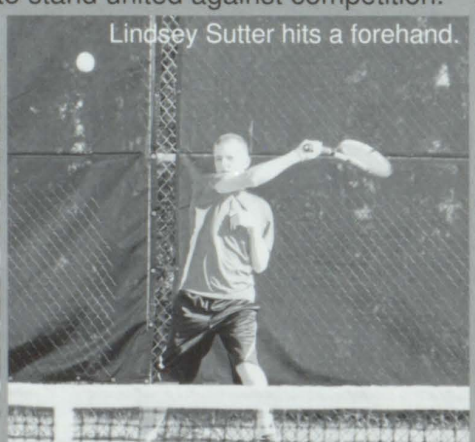


Jinesh Shah serves to start the match.



Erik Witcomb works hard during a meet.

Atticus Garrison concentrates on making his serve.



Lindsey Sutter hits a forehand.

The Rocky doubles team competes against Moline.

Senior, Anna Teggatz strikes through a forehand

As the tennis season came to an end, one great aspect of success that the team saw was witnessing their hard work paying off. With a trip to State at the close of the season, the three competitors were captains, and seniors, Anna Teggatz and Sammy Carr, as well as returning qualifier, sophomore, Nicole Tyulpa. "Last year, I was the only one to go, and this year it was so much fun, and a completely different experience to have my teammates with me," Tyulpa shared.

Hard Work Matters Here

Top: Coach Don Hartwig, Morgan DeSmet, Julia Garrison, Coach Jeff McCracken, Hannah Rodgers, Sidney Laughlin, Coach Chris Gabany
Middle: Maegan Tallman, Iris Anderson, Carolina Medina, Asrielle Allen, Kaitlyn O'Brien, Anna Teggatz, Arviana Miles, Gabriela Orduna-DeLeon
Bottom: Jacqueline Rangel, Colleen Stablein, Brandi Bea, Ana Rodemeyer, Ivy Anderson, Nicole Tyulpa, Sammy Carr

Sophomore, Kaitlyn O'Brien recovers from a backhand.

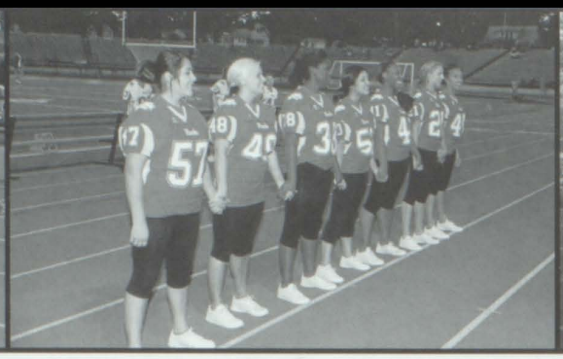
Sophomore, Nicole Tyulpa swings through a forehand.

Senior, Sammy Carr prepares to serve against Alleman.

In addition to their great accomplishments, the Varsity finished their season undefeated in dual meets, and Tyulpa met her goal to win Western Big Six. Seniors, Anna Teggatz, Sidney Laughlin, Hannah Rodgers, and Sammy Carr were a part of the Dispatch All-Metro Team, as well.

Having a team with so many seniors is always hard for the upcoming year, however these girls have a great outlook for the next season. "This season, I got a feeling of success, especially going to State for the first time as a doubles team with Anna. My team's hard work always made me proud to be a captain," Sammy Carr commented.

The girls were dedicated throughout the whole season, and showed an immense amount of progress and achievement. With the opportunity to finish their high school tennis careers with such a great season, these seniors can leave Rocky with their accomplishments as a reminder of all their hard work, and an inspiration for their underclassmen team members.



TRUST Matters Here

"Trust matters to us because if we don't trust each other, we won't get anything done," Helena Smiley, captain of the Football Cheerleading Squad said. The Varsity Cheerleading Squad had a lot of new skills to grasp and work with this year, as well as challenges to overcome. "Along with losing some valuable seniors, we also expanded the squad from 12 to 16 girls," Head Coach Betsy Larson said.

Like every team or organization, there are many different personalities involved. The squad saw that, and all agreed to change up their schedules, and add team dinners on Thursday nights, to get to know each other better and spend more time together as a unit. "The best part of the season was becoming close to my team and fellow captains," Isabella KongKousonh stated.

The squad handled the changes well. Lindsey Kelley, a junior was added to the squad after one of the girls was injured before the season started. "It's different cheering football, so I had a lot to learn. It was my first time ever cheering on our football team, and it was so much fun," Kelley explained.

The squad had a lot of challenges to deal with, from the extra girls, changing stunt groups, learning new skills, and just getting used to each other, but by the end, they had a great time cheering during the 8-2 season for the football team. "It's my last season cheering, and coming in, I didn't know what to expect. We trusted each other by the end of the season, which is what made this season great. I don't think I would have wanted to spend it with anyone else," Senior Stasi Jones said.

VARSITY FOOTBALL CHEERLEADERS

Front Row: Shelby Hodge, Isabella Kongkousonh, Taylor Neyens. Middle Row: Cierra Smith, Nidia Villapando, Lexi Bragg, Veda Rossi, Dariyn Perez. Back Row: Danielle Garcia, Jordan Sholl, Jasmine Walker, Lindsey Kelley, Stasi Jones, Helena Smiley, Ariel Rodriguez.

The Varsity Cheerleaders perform a stunt during their dance at the Homecoming Game. The cheerleaders put together a dance every year for Homecoming.

FRESHMAN CHEERLEADERS

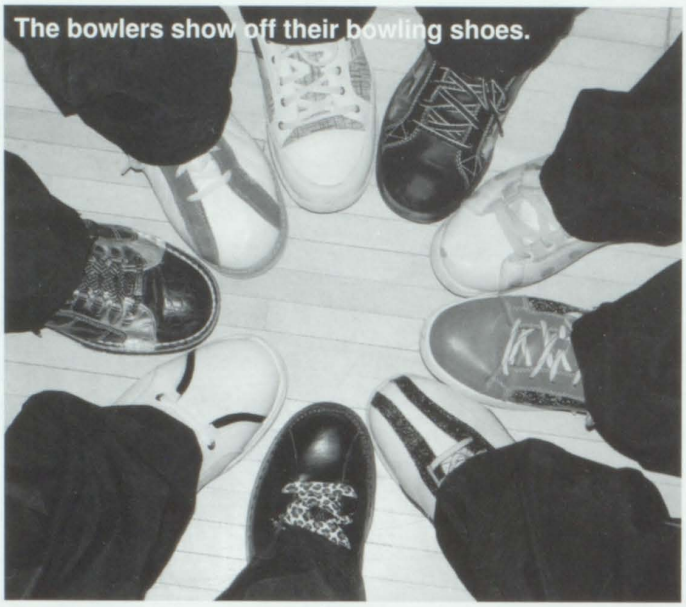
Front Row: Deja Simmons, Shalynn Brodnax. Middle Row: Lauren Bell, Jessica Torrence, Shelby Brasmer, Crystal Ehimwenman. Back Row: Loryn Millbrook, Akia Ivy, Drake Mason, Emilie Heggen, Sabrina Stone.

SOPHOMORE CHEERLEADERS

Front Row: Hope Collins, Taryn Hanson. Middle Row: Victoria Witmer, Mya Bragg, Corinne McDowell. Back Row: Victoria Gomez, Taylor Greko, Tajhe Worthy, Alyssa Butler.

The Varsity Cheerleaders line up for the National Anthem at the Red and Gold Game.

Bowling

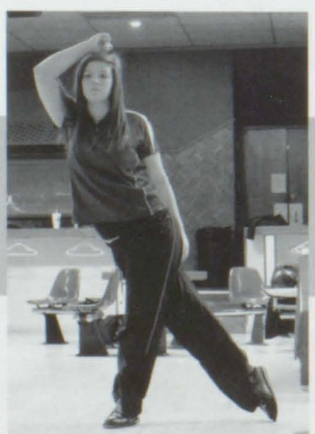


The bowlers show off their bowling shoes.

Sophomore Samantha Roberge bowled a 300 at the U.T. Invitational earlier in the season.

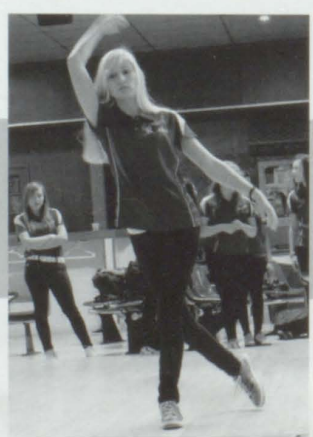
Seniors Abby Williams, Felicia Contreras, Allyson Boyle, Juli Jespersen, and Gina Blair pose for a picture before a meet at Milan Lanes.

Seniors

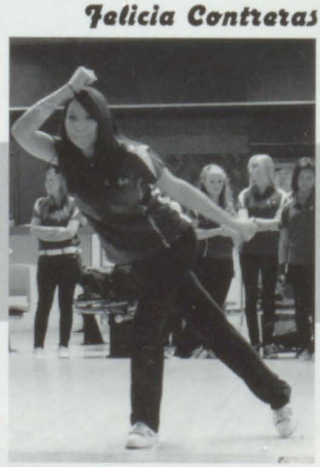


Abby Williams

Gina Blair



Juli Jespersen



Felicia Contreras

Front Row (L to R): Captains: Abby Williams and Assia Filali. **Row 2:** Kaitlyn O'Brien, Sophie Taylor, Gina Blair, Samantha Roberge, Breayona Reed, Kaitlyn Young, Katie McDonald. **Back Row:** Dominique Holland, Coach Jim Braet, Qadirah Huhammad, Allyson Boyle, Juli Jespersen, Kira Rangel, Julia Garrison, Jordan Sholl, Felicia Contreras, Kristina Mohr, Coach Deena Fuller, Randie Lawson.

Coaches Deena Fuller & Jim Braet

The 3 C's Matter Here

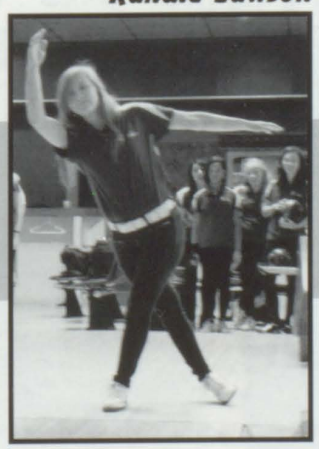
Captains

Junior Assia Filali & Senior Abby Williams

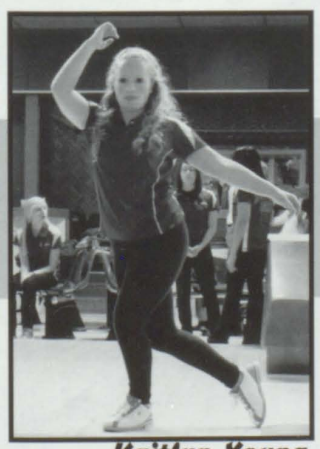
The girls' bowling season was memorable to say the least. New school records were set, and plenty of memories were made. Early in the season, sophomore, Samantha Roberge, bowled a 300, a perfect game, at the RI Invitational. "It was a great feeling, and I'm glad I was able to help my team win," Sam stated, when asked how she felt. She is the first bowler in Rock Island bowling history to ever bowl a perfect game. Also, this season, Junior Jordan Sholl qualified for State. "Making it to State was a huge accomplishment of mine. I'll never forget the feeling I had just being there. It was truly amazing," Jordan stated.

The accomplishments this season were pretty amazing but there's always room for improvement. "Coach Braet always tells us to remember the 3 C's, confidence, concentration, and consistency," Senior captain Abby Williams explains. "I know the team will be even better next year."

Randie Lawson



Allyson Boyle



Kaitlyn Young

Breayona Reed

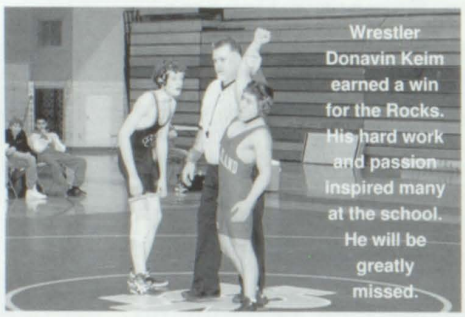
ENDURANCE Matters Here

Wrestling is one of the most physically and mentally tough sports an athlete can compete in. The athletes and coaches have to work together to insure success. "The coaches have allowed me to think past mental boundaries we all face as wrestlers, and open my eyes to the talent, speed, and skill that I truly possess," team captain, Marcus Jackson said. In order to be successful, the wrestlers agreed they all must have the right mentality.

Team captain, Tyler DeHaven said, "The highlight of the season was progressing through the year, and beating some tough teams." The Rocks wrestled well against very competitive teams, such as Geneseo, La-Salle Peru, and U.T.

Not only are the boys teammates, but they are brothers, as well, which helped them be successful. Marcus Jackson said, "Towards the end of the season, we finally solidified our bond as a team, even through the downfalls." The wrestlers always kept each other's mindset in the right place by encouraging each other to do their best. Tyler DeHaven said, "My favorite memory of the season was wrestling my Senior Night, and winning my last match at Rocky with my best friends." Rock Island wrestler's spent many hours of practice pushing each other to be the best they could be. "I will never forget the late night inspirational talks in the hotel room the night before we wrestle with Jean-Louis, Tyler, and Josh," Senior, Marcus Jackson explained regarding the bonds he and his teammates have. As the Rocks' season came to an end, Tyler DeHaven said, "I'll miss my coaches, wrestling with my best friends, my managers and wrestling for the Rocks!"

The Rock Island Wrestling Team had a lot of potential throughout their season. All through the season, Coach Joel Stockwell told his wrestlers, "Work hard because it takes hard work to become a champion." After the all the hard work and dedication the Rocks put in, they ended their season with a 11-7 record as a first year 3A team.



Wrestler Donavin Keim earned a win for the Rocks. His hard work and passion inspired many at the school. He will be greatly missed.

Front Row (L to R): Austin Sims, Alex Andrews, McArthur Ellis, Jamison Semla, Josh Davis, Tyler DeHaven, Drew VanDeWoestyne, David Xique. Row 2 (L to R): Coach Stockwell, Donavin Keim, Lain Stocke, Noah McClendon, Shaylan Loomis, Isiah Gulick, Karolinkurizeh, Shadarake Niyankure, Sina Kahlor, Coach Stockwell. Row 3 (L to R): Bre Biswell, Cameron Craig, Chase Spicer, Jean-Louis Sawadogo, Sarah Israel, Virgie McGhee, Brenden MacDonald, Dekari Nephew, Jacob Israel, Kasey McCracken. Row 4 (L to R): Coach Kirkhove, Ravay Hickman-Parks, Austin Fletcher, Michael Long, Jacob Griffin, Gauge McNichols, Tanner Hamburg, Dalton Lawver, Lamon Phillips, Skyler Bertoli, Coach Boyd. Back Row (L to R): Keiant Peters, Marcus Jackson, Adam Burdock-Poulin, Nick Niles, Tyree Overton, Shawn Dennis.

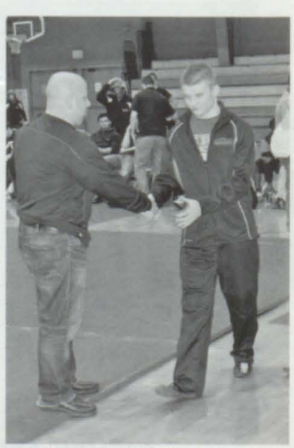
Senior Night

Tyler DeHaven

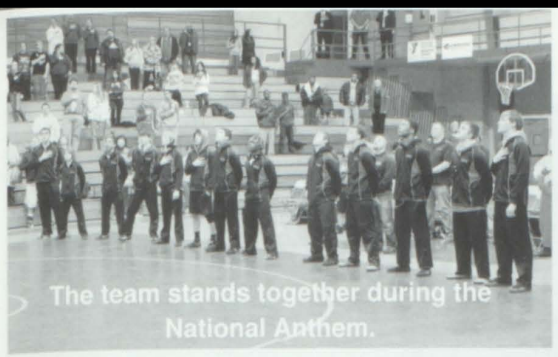
Marcus Jackson

Jean-Louis Sawadogo

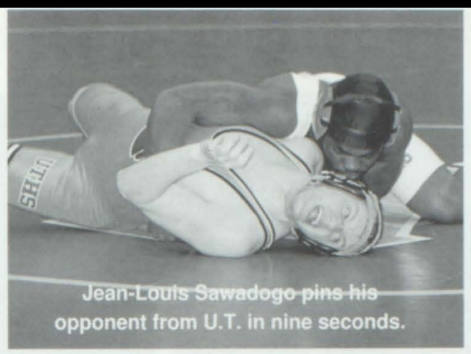
Nick Niles



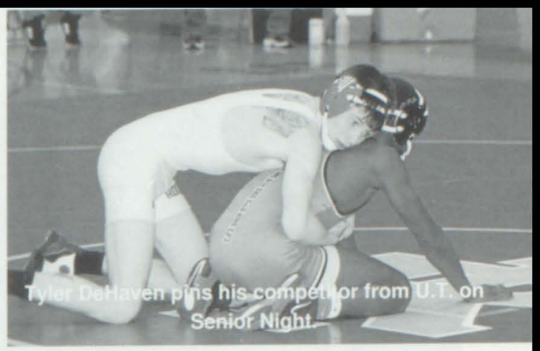
Gauge McNichols



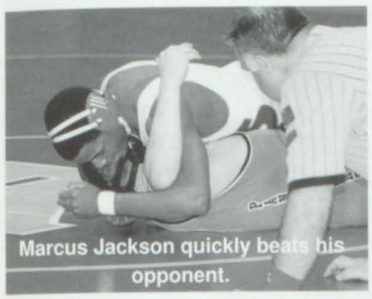
The team stands together during the National Anthem.



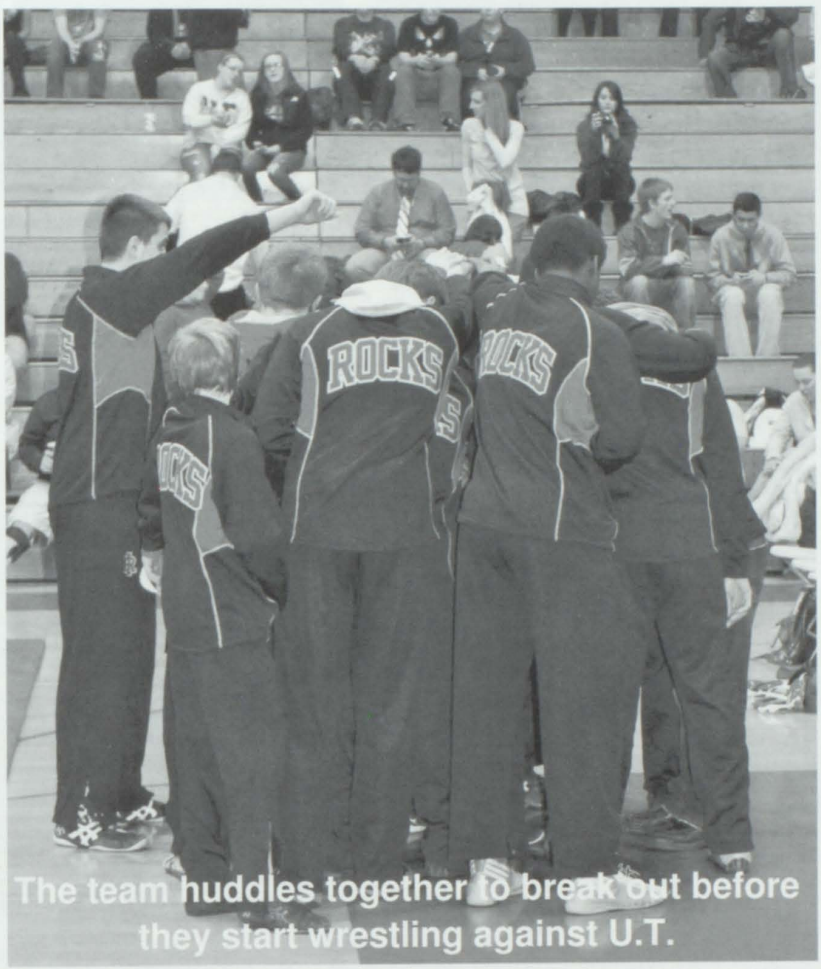
Jean-Louis Sawadogo pins his opponent from U.T. in nine seconds.



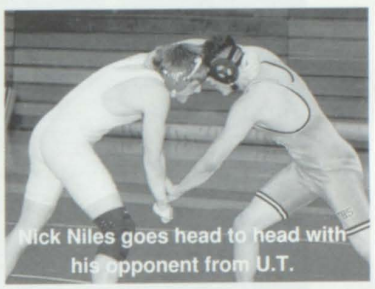
Tyler DeHaven pins his competitor from U.T. on Senior Night.



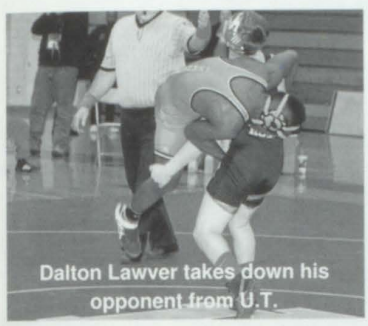
Marcus Jackson quickly beats his opponent.



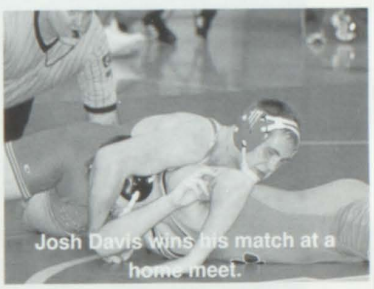
The team huddles together to break out before they start wrestling against U.T.



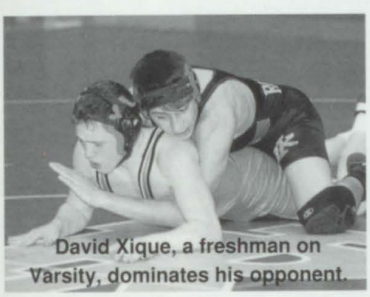
Nick Niles goes head to head with his opponent from U.T.



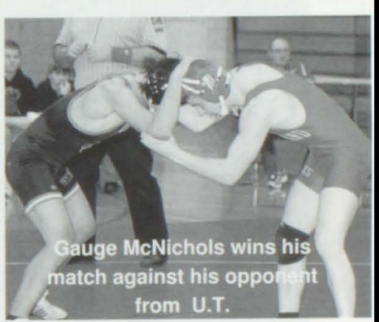
Dalton Lawver takes down his opponent from U.T.



Josh Davis wins his match at a home meet.



David Xique, a freshman on Varsity, dominates his opponent.



Gauge McNichols wins his match against his opponent from U.T.

TEAM MOTTOS

"Be a Champion!" -Coach Stockwell

"You had one job." - Sarah Israel

"Dude! Seriously?" -Gauge McNichols

"Oh My Gosh! Stop!" - Kasey McCracken

"You got me, bro?" - Jean-Louis

"See what had happened was..." -Josh Davis

"Let's gooooo!" - The team

"Headbutt!" - Nick Niles

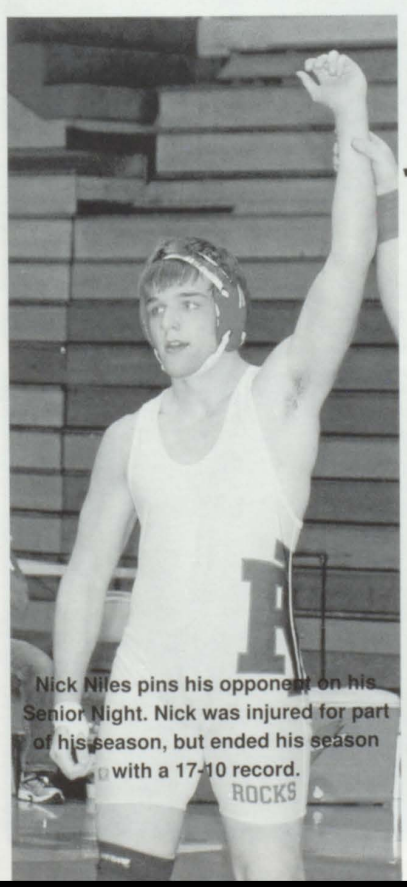
"Huuuhhhh?" - Virgie McGhee

"Im'a fight you!" -Marcus Jackson

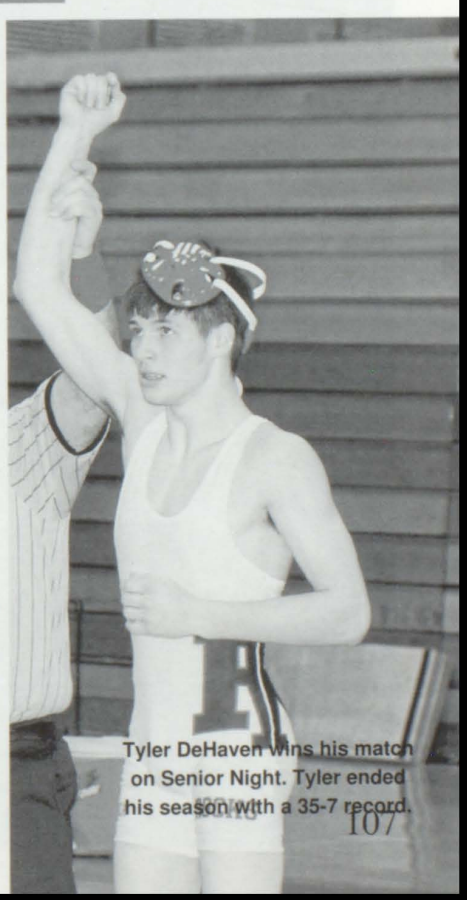
"TWOOOOOO!" - Coach Boyd

"You have to already have the match won in your head before you step on the mat." - Tyler DeHaven

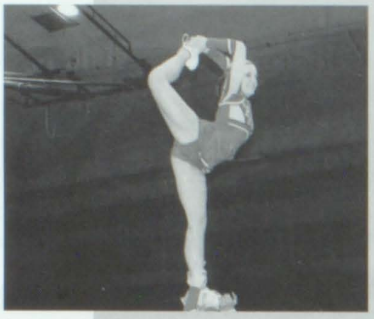
"I'm Ready! I'm Ready! I'm Ready!" - Tyree Overton



Nick Niles pins his opponent on his Senior Night. Nick was injured for part of his season, but ended his season with a 17-10 record.



Tyler DeHaven wins his match on Senior Night. Tyler ended his season with a 35-7 record.



Flexibility Matters Here

Whether it's from stretching to hit the scorpions, or changing their personal schedules to support the basketball team, the cheerleaders never forget the importance of flexibility. "In order to hit our more difficult stunts, I stretch at home in addition to the work I do at practice because as a senior, I also think it is important to be a role model to future and current flyers," said Senior Captain, Helena Smiley.

This season, the squad worked especially hard on trying new stunts. "As a cheerleader, I feel it is important to hit new stunts at every home game. We may not be the center of attention; however, we make it our goal to make sure the boys look good, and the crowd is entertained," said Senior Captain, Kyrstin Plohr. At this year's Senior Night, the squad performed the roller coaster stunt from the popular movie, "Bring It On: In It To Win It."

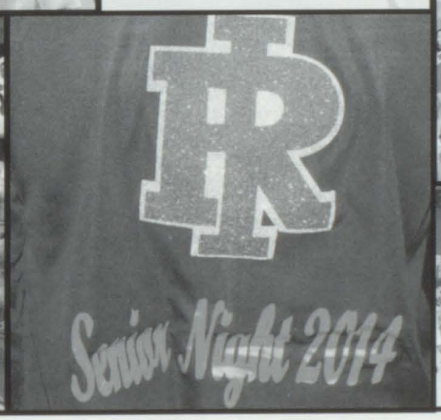
On the other hand, just like any other activity, the squad has to take into consideration all of their jobs and school work, while they still remember their jobs as a support system for the basketball team. "Even though I work and am really involved at school with clubs and other sports, I love cheerleading, so it's easy to make time for it. I've had to call in to work and make appointments around cheer, but it's worth it," said Senior Captain, Izzi Wieland.

Flexibility matters to this squad, filled with well-rounded, talented ladies. Without the splits and the scheduling scares, basketball season just wouldn't be the same for this committed group of girls.

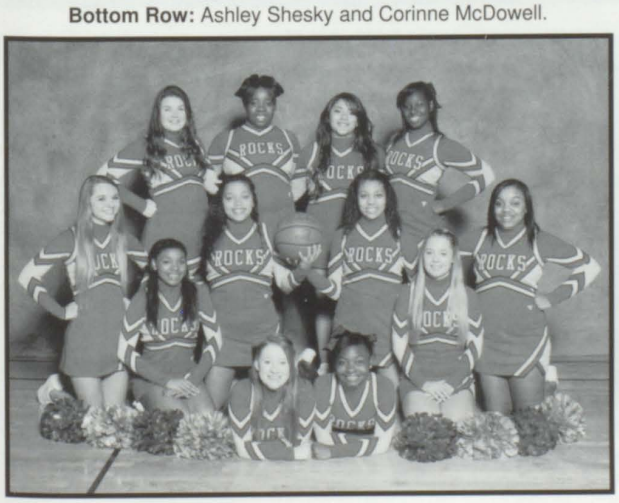
Top Row: Kyrstin Plohr, Izzi Wieland, Monee' Turner, Abbi Wieland, and Lindsey Kelley.
Middle Row: Ariel Rodriguez, Cierra Smith, Dariyn Perez, Helena Smiley, and Isabella KongKousonh.
Bottom Row: Shauntrice Gamble, Veda Rossi, Lexi Bragg, and Shelby Hodge.

Top Row: Victoria Witmer, Taylor Greko, Lauren Bell, and Alyssa Butler.
Bottom Row: Hope Collins, Mya Bragg, and Taryn Hanson

Top Row: Loryn Millbrook, Shelby Brasmer, Akia Ivy, Jasmine Thomas, and Sabrina Stone.
Middle Row: Crystal Ehimwenman, Emilie Heggen, and Jessica Torrence.
Bottom Row: Lauren Bell and Shalynn Brodnax



Top Row: Sidney Laughlin, Dennicia Hickman, Nidia Villalpando, and Jasmine Walker.
Middle Row: Taylor Neyens, Alexus Jackson, Danielle Garcia, Kianna Dugger, Katey Hart, and Sierra Smith.
Bottom Row: Ashley Shesky and Corinne McDowell.



Top Row: Justice Cunningham, Heaven Cunningham, Victoria Gomez, and Yvonica Gomez.
Middle Row: Dominique Perkins, Deja Simmons, and Mashair Yaya.
Bottom Row: Fatima Guzman and Nadia Hill.

The "Wolf-Pack"

The 2013 Girls' Cross Country season was very special to the seniors this year. The team had eight four year seniors, and all were returning runners. Senior Captain, Claire Bacon said, "This year has been different from any other year because we are all a family." Claire added, "We stick together and we cheer each other on in running at meets, practice, and in life." The team has developed a bond because of the group of seniors, and the bond has become an essential part of the team that the underclassmen are expected to become a part of, too.

Not only are the girls getting closer at team dinners and working River Bandits' games, they also have a strategy to run as a "Wolf-Pack." This means they start the race as a team, and try to stick together to push each other. To senior, Kirsten Tauke, the "Wolf-Pack" means, "A group of close friends and runners who use each other as support to reach a common goal."

This family feeling is what gave the coach, Tony VanDeWalle, the idea to take the team to run at the Walt Disney Classic in Orlando, Florida. Not only did the team have a blast at the beach, they also proved that they deserved to run at the race. Kirsten Tauke said, "Our biggest accomplishment this season was finishing in the top of the Walt Disney Classic. We represented our school well, and the accomplishment added more excitement to the trip."

Right after the trip, the girls ran in Regionals, and Abbi Wieland, Agok Ayuen, Claire Bacon, and Sara Stockdale moved on to Sectionals as individuals. At Sectionals, Agok Ayuen got ninth place, ending the season on a great accomplishment. Having so many upperclassmen has really helped the younger girls compete at higher levels, and make themselves better runners. Competing at higher levels will help the underclassmen as they get older and are more experienced. This experience the girls have gained with the seniors gives the team hope for a bright future.

Matters Here

Left: The Girls' Cross Country Team warms up for the Rock Island Invite. The first finisher for the team was Claire Bacon.

Front Row L to R: Delina Tesfamichael, Emily Stockdale, Katelyn McCullough, Deniza Ndihokubwayo, Mackenzie Leatherman, Maggie Flowers, Ninkiza Vailete, Claire Bacon.

Middle Row L to R: Head Coach Tony VanDeWalle, Iradukunda Josephine, Clever Kenese, Elizabeth Wieland, Sara Stockdale, Asst. Coach Sue VanDeWalle.

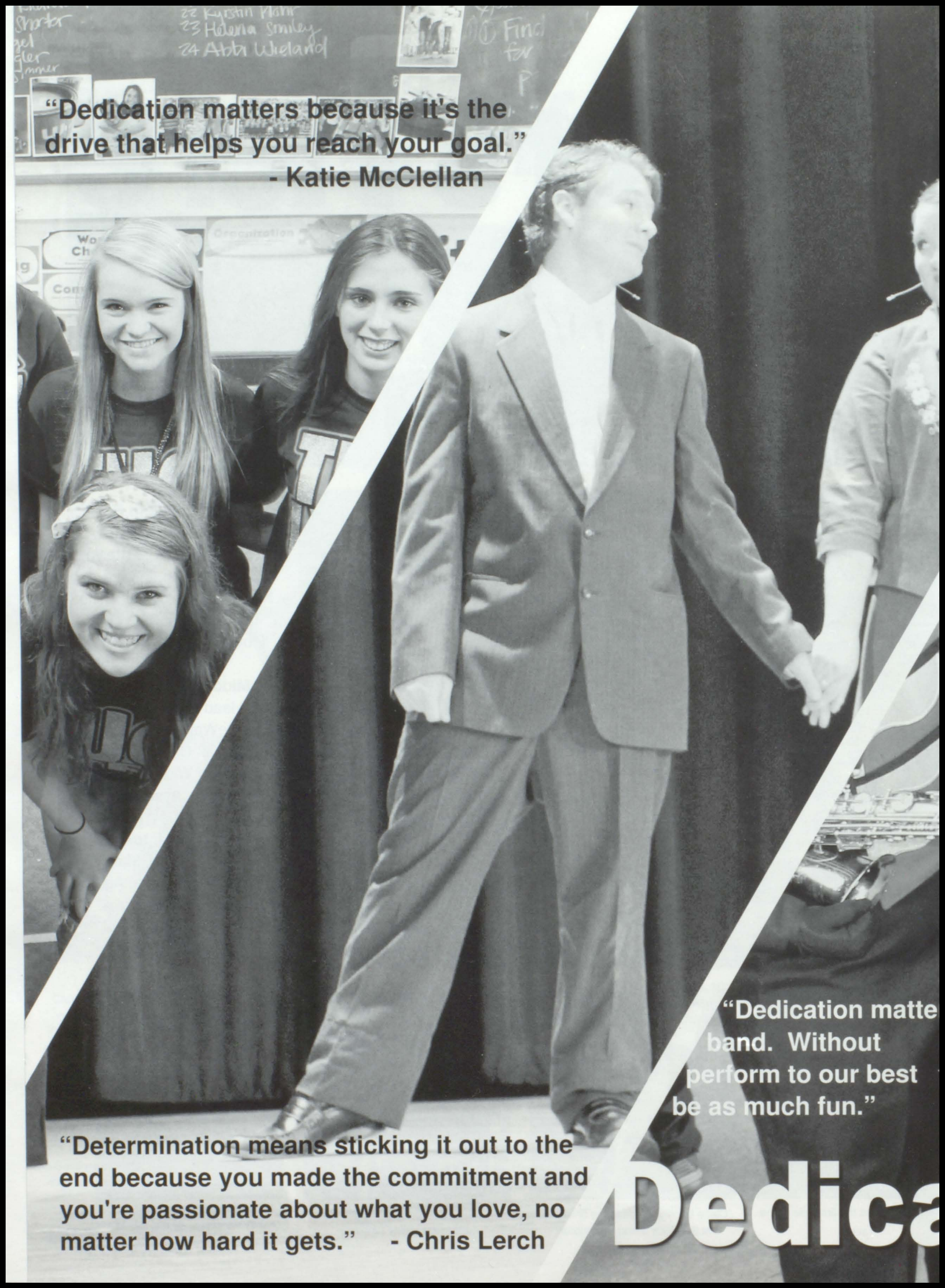
Back Row L to R: Abigail Wieland, Mariah Prieto, Muna Juma, Agok Ayuen, Kirsten Tauke, Isabella Naab, Isabel Vallejo.

Kirsten Tauke runs the first mile at the race.

Claire Bacon sprints to the finish line at the Rock Island Invitational.

Isabella Naab competes against a Pleasant Valley runner.

The team starts the race. The Cross Country team's strategy is to stay as a pack and help each other.


"Dedication matters because it's the drive that helps you reach your goal."
- Katie McClellan
"Dedication matte
band. Without
perform to our best
be as much fun."
"Determination means sticking it out to the end because you made the commitment and you're passionate about what you love, no matter how hard it gets." - Chris Lerch
Dedica

s the most in marching
dedication, we wouldn't
ability, and it wouldn't

- Meghan Wells

"If you're not dedicated to ROTC with the uniform or drilling, it is disrespectful. We are representing the U.S. Armed Forces."

- Madison Smith

tion Matters Here

D.A.R.E. Matters Here

J.R.O.T.C. is a class that engages students in leadership and preparation for their futures. The J.R.O.T.C. uses the term, D.A.R.E., to help them stay focused on their goals. The term D.A.R.E. stands for Discipline, Attitude, Respect, and Exceptional. The class focuses on these words because they are the values they are expected to abide by and live by. "J.R.O.T.C. is a class that you join to gain self-confidence, learn life skills, and achieve personal responsibility," Colonel David Jirele states. J.R.O.T.C. really focuses on developing leadership skills in students by having a student staff who are in charge of orchestrating events, planning the events, and seeing them through. Along with the staff, J.R.O.T.C. has a drill team who also teaches leadership, and provides students with an in school family, as the drill team is constantly together.

J.R.O.T.C. also helps serve its community, as well. They volunteer at the school for Toys-for-Tots, and they do a street clean up in the spring and fall. Cadet Commander Antonetta Axup stated, "J.R.O.T.C. isn't just a class, it is a family."

Above: The Color Guard waits to present the flag before a football game. This is a tradition for home football games during the National Anthem.

Left: The J.R.O.T.C. Drill Team performs at the Homecoming Assembly.

Above: The J.R.O.T.C. washes cars to raise money for their program and to further help the community.

Above: Madison Smith, a member of the Color Guard for J.R.O.T.C., waits to present the colors at the home basketball game.

Left: The J.R.O.T.C. continues their tradition of marching in the Labor Day Parade.

Why does R.O.T.C. matter to you?

"I feel it has definitely bettered me as a person."
- Cadet Commander Antonetta Axup

"It gives students an opportunity to better themselves and prepare for life. It's a fun activity I can get involved in, and opens up the world."
- Madison Smith

Making Bank Matters Here

Money is a motivator for all high school students, including those who attend Rocky. Rock Island High School offers students a chance to study basic job skills, as well as leave school a period or two early to get more hours in the work field. This class is called Business Internship. In this class, students learn work skills, and are graded on their quality of work. Business Internship requires students to have a job, however, if the student doesn't have a job upon enrollment, then this class will also help them find a job. Managers of these student-employees fill out evaluations, which are used towards the grade the student will receive in the class.

Senior, Ashly Anderson has been in the work program since her junior year. "The business program helped me get more hours at work because it allows me to get out of school earlier, so I can go to work an hour earlier. It's a great advantage." The students get a grade for class work, and also a grade from their employer. The employer grades them on basic work skills, honesty, things they need to work on, and aspects of work that they have improved on or learned, and based off of that, they will give you an overall grade. "This class helps me do better at work because I know I get graded on it for school. It has helped me get my promotions, and the employee of the month!" said Anderson.

The teacher, Mrs. Quinlin, has worked hard to build the program, and prepare students for their futures in the work place. Over the years, she has helped students learn many valuable job skills, as well as help students get jobs.

The employers of these students play a big part in the class. Ashly Anderson's manager, Julie Angusich, enjoys being involved in the work program because she thinks that it's a huge advantage to student-employees. "This program helps keep kids on the right track, and it makes students work harder in the work field, which definitely shows!" says Julie.

All students want their high school classes to prepare them for their futures, and this class helps participants learn skills they will use throughout their lives.

Jo'Meka Miller works at Panera Bread, the popular cafe located in Moline.

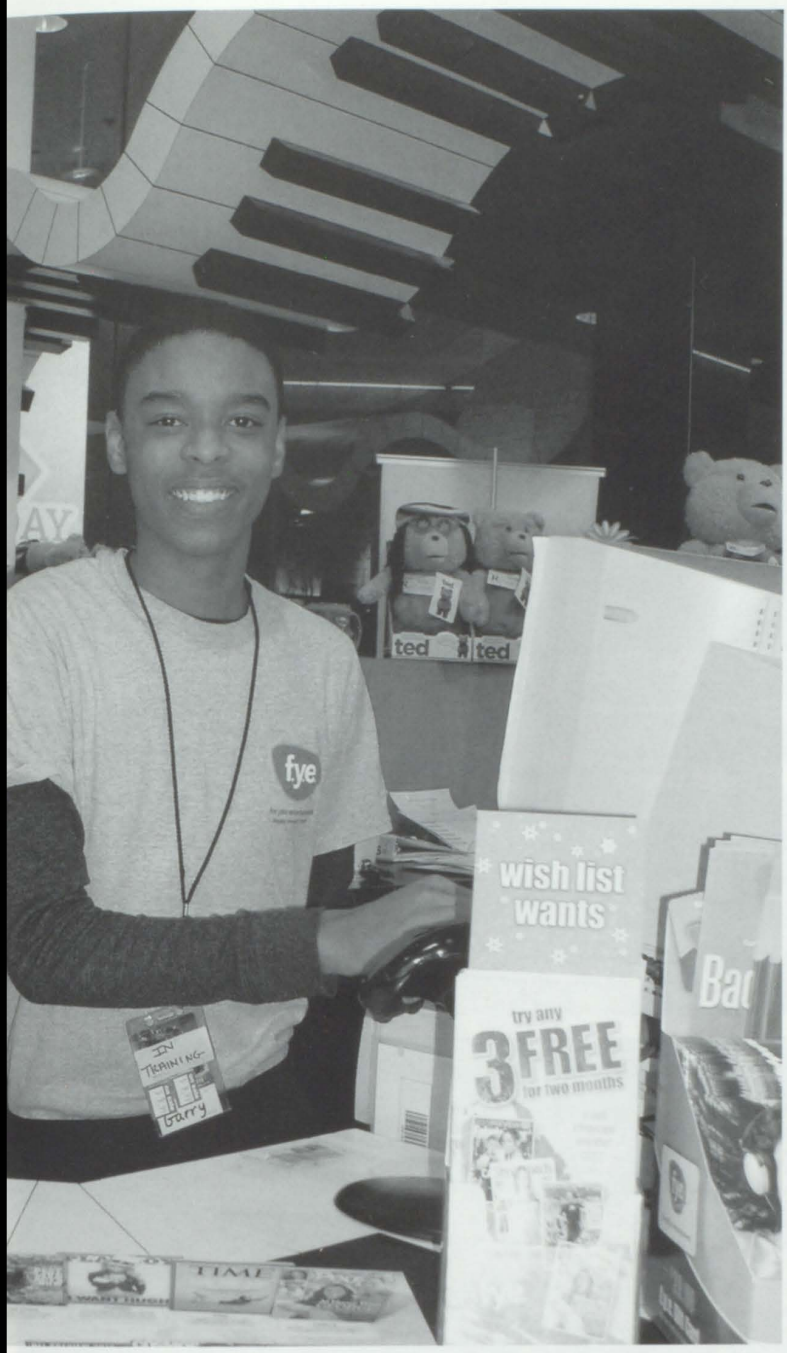
Sierra Smith works at Pizza and Subs in Rock Island.

Ebony Boyd works at HyVee. She does various jobs, such as working in the kitchen, and as a checker.

Hailey Jungjohahn and Camie Herbert are coworkers at Arthur's Garden Deli.

Destiney Hearn works for the Girl Scouts of America. She travels around to different schools, and leads groups of young girls in various activities.

Destiney Hearn helps build self confidence, courage, and character for local youth at the Girl Scouts of America.



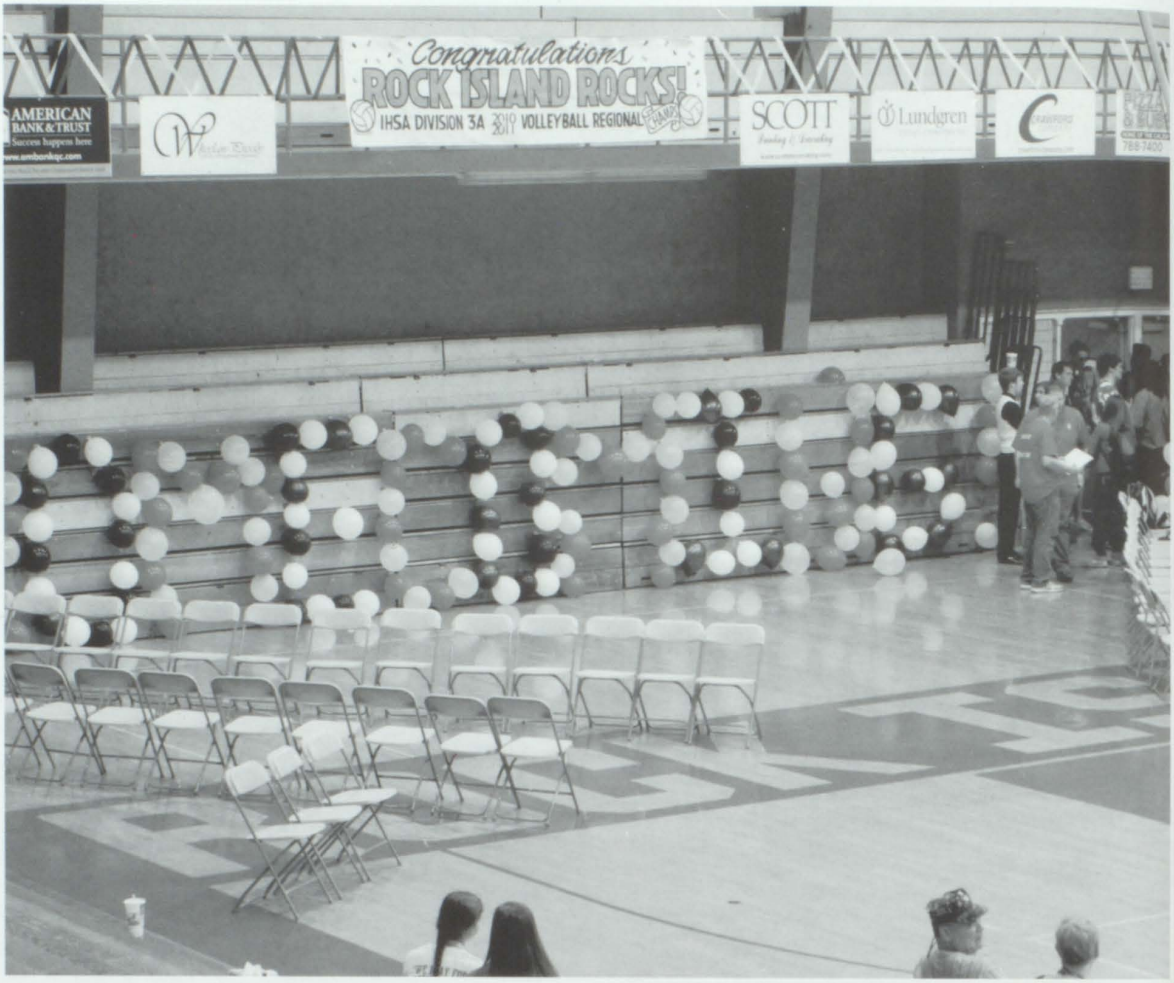
Center: Garry Boggess works at FYE. The music store in North Park Mall has a variety of media ranging from movies to CDs.

Above: Keely Kirkbride works at a local consignment shop in Rock Island.

Left: Haley Dorman and Toriana Davis pose during their jobs at HyVee. HyVee is a large grocery store where the girls work as cashiers.

Stephanie Carey works at the Hungry Hobo in Rock Island. Hungry Hobo is famous for their delicious sandwiches and amazing service.

Micheal Jones works at Simoniz Carwash. He dries off the freshly washed cars before they leave.



Top Left: The Homecoming button was designed by Helena Smiley.
Top Right: The Student Senate is responsible for decorating the gym for the Homecoming Assembly.
Middle: Amanda Manary practices for Live United Day.
Bottom Left: Jacklyn Young and Alyssa Pool help load the semi to the food bank.
Bottom Right: The Student Senate is in charge of gathering students to donate blood, and run the Blood Drive.

The 2013 -2014 Board Members

Leadership Matters Here

Early every Friday morning, students of Rock Island High School come together and plan events for our school. The Student Council and Lettermen's Club joined together to accomplish events such as Homecoming, the Hunger Drive, the Blood Drive, Swirl and many more. The club is evolving and maturing every year with brand new ideas and creative students.

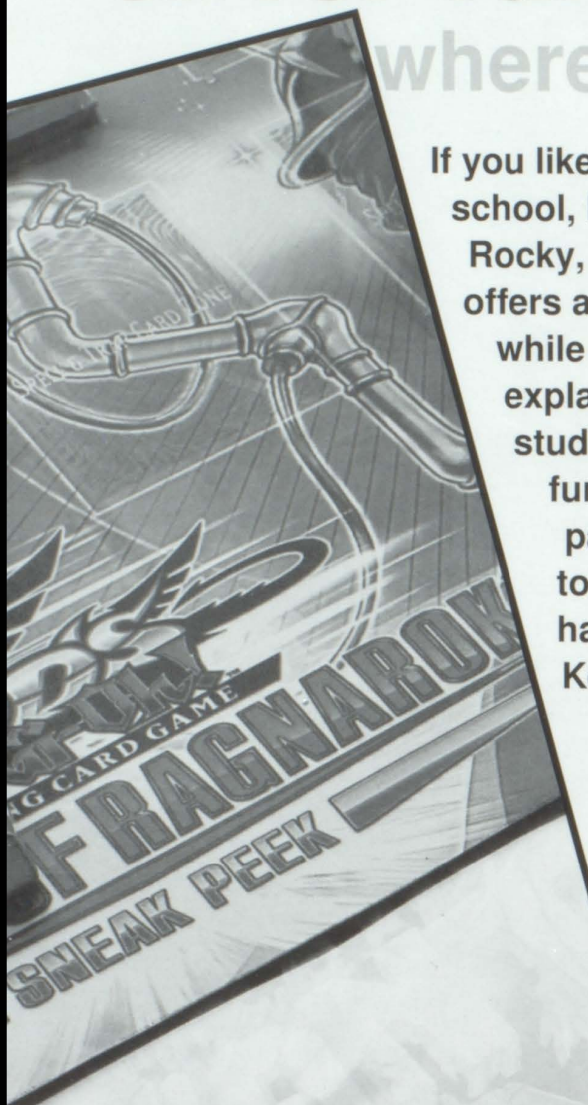
The clubs did experience a change this year. This year, they decided to have one committee of board members instead of titled positions. “We decided to convert to the board because this way no one feels obligated to less or more than one other, but instead, we view each other's opinions as equal,” explained board member, Kyrstin Plohr.

Most of the students that join the Student Council have great ideas regarding events and dances. Every year, there's more and more talent that enters the club, and more students who want to help out. Trey Sigel states, “I wanted to be involved with something at school other than sports. I was nominated for the board, and felt honored, so I wanted to try.” Mrs. Thompson, who is in charge of the club, along with Mr. Wendland, says, “I enjoy working with all the students who are involved in our organization.”

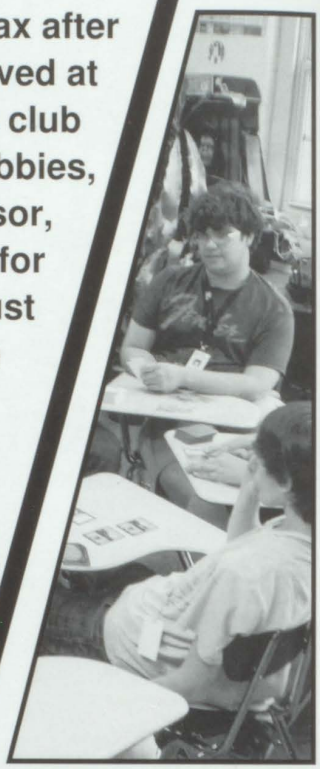
Student Council and Lettermen's Club are constantly at work, whether they are passing out candy grams or collecting food for the hungry, they always prove that leadership matters at Rock Island High School.

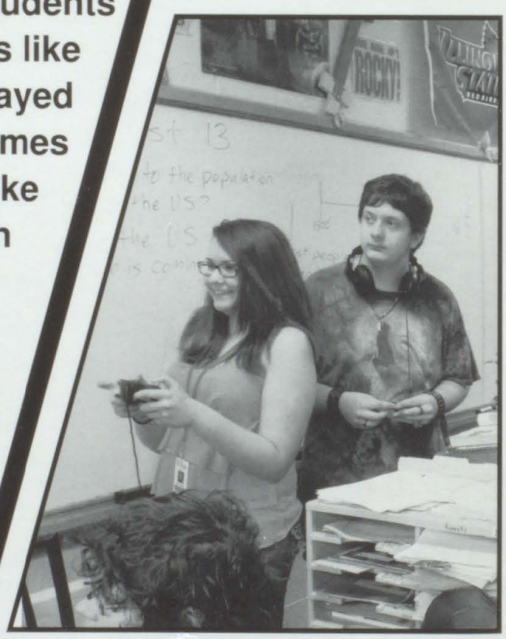
entertainment club

where gaming matters here



If you like to hang out and play games, or just relax after school, Entertainment Club is a way to get involved at Rocky, and get together with your friends. The club offers a chance to discover and pursue new hobbies, while having fun. Mr. Kennelly, the club advisor, explains how the club is also an opportunity for students looking for something more than just fun and games."Some club members have participated in, and won, several gaming tournaments with cash prizes, and others have created their own gaming systems," Kennelly shares. Meeting after school on Tuesdays, the club is always open to new people, as it does not have a set agenda, and students decide what to discuss or participate in during the meetings. "This year, students chose to play video games like Minecraft, while others played zombie survival board games or role-playing games like Pathfinder. Some even learned how to build computers and draw comics," Kennelly explained. Definitely a unique experience, Entertainment Club is for the die hard gamers.





Academics Matter Here

Andrew Pearson sits at the Academic Team table to bring in more members at the Rally at the Rock.

Annie Axup is one of the captains of the Academic Team.

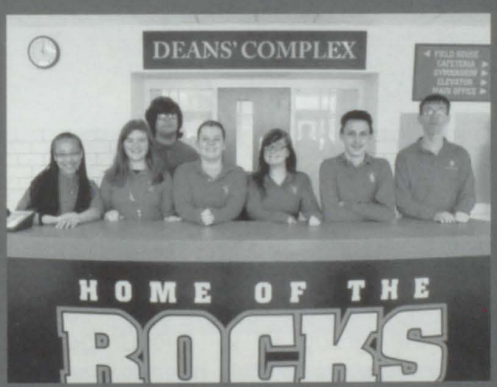
This is Ms. Landsness' first year as an Academic Team Coach.

Most students have a lot of time to answer questions on a test. That is not the case during the Academic Team's competitions. They only have 30 seconds to answer each question, but that is not all! They still have to be the first to answer the question to get the point!

The Academic Team is a group of students who go to tournaments competing against other schools, to see who has the most knowledge and the quickest responses. "Next year, we are hoping to attend more meets, and recruit new members," assistant coach Ms. Landsness states.

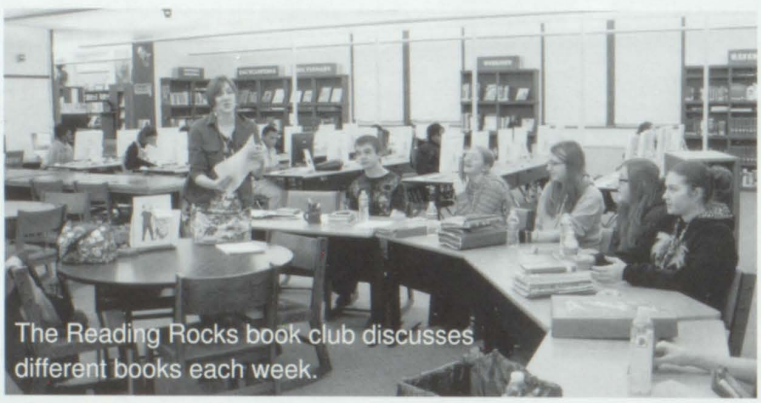
During the competitions, the team is asked a variety of questions. The students have to solve math problems, current event questions, as well as history, English, and literature questions.

Rocky's Academic Team has often had success, but the group is working to build more from the junior high, as well. Landsness says, "The high school students go to the middle schools once a week, and ask them age appropriate questions. Edison and Washington are getting ready to compete against each other in our third annual competition." The Academic Team is growing in every way possible. Ms. Landsness said, "I cant wait to see how far along we are in five years!"

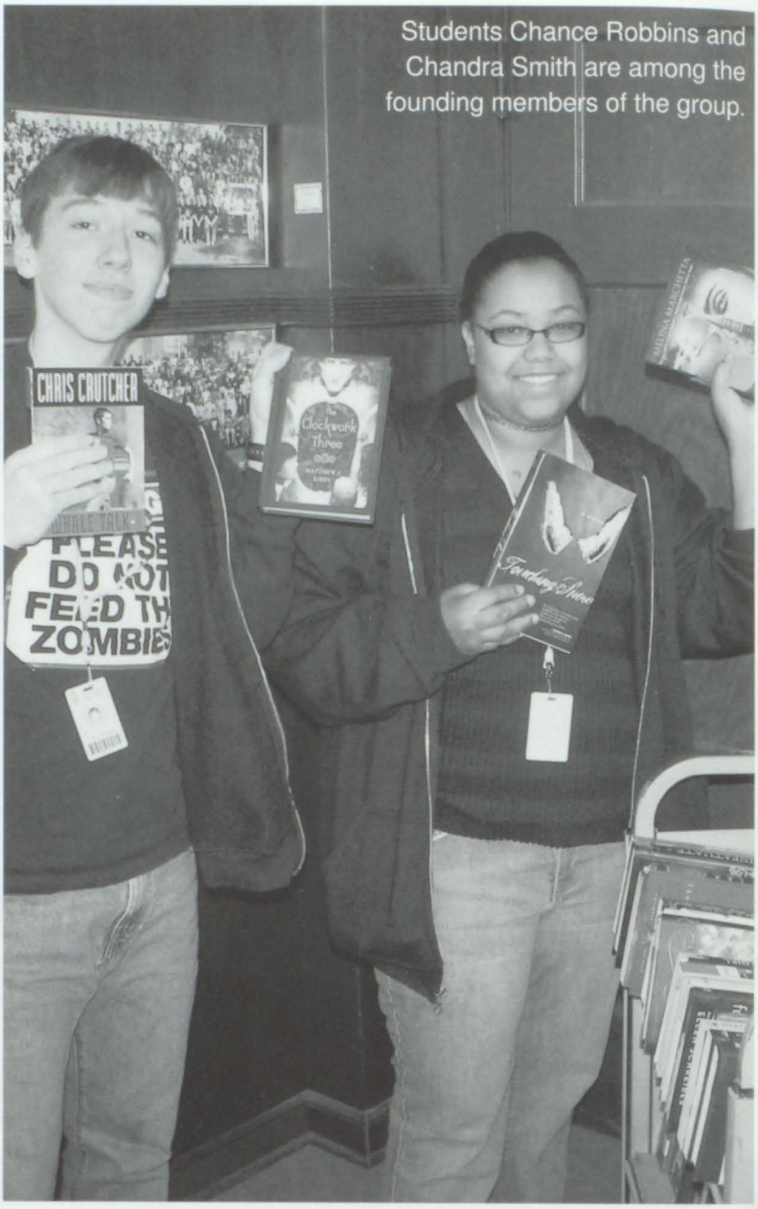


The number of members attending Rocking Books meetings varies, but the group has grown in numbers since its start.

Emily Tobin, the Young Adult Librarian in Rock Island, discusses literature with Hannah Rodgers.



The Reading Rocks book club discusses different books each week.



Students Chance Robbins and Chandra Smith are among the founding members of the group.

Reading Rocks

Interpreting Matters Here

Have you wanted to join a club where you talk about your favorite books? Or even your favorite movies? The Reading Rocks book club started meeting last October for just that reason. "I had wanted to start a book club for a few years, but had trouble finding the time before the high school added the enrichment period," said Mrs. Curtiss. "There were several students who were actively campaigning for a book club last year. Michelle Rangel, Hannah Rodgers, Anna Teggatz, and Chandra Smith all approached us about staring a club." The majority of the meetings were led by participating students. Last year, the Reading Rocks read the books *The Chosen One*, *Divergent*, *Matched*, *Across the Universe*, *Warm Bodies*,*The Maze Runner*, and *I Hunt Killers*. This year, so far, they have read *Paper Towns*, *Feed, Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children,* and *Lockdown.*

"The purpose of the group is to encourage and equip students to read for pleasure, and to have a forum to discuss what they've read, judgment free, with a diverse group of people," said Curtiss.

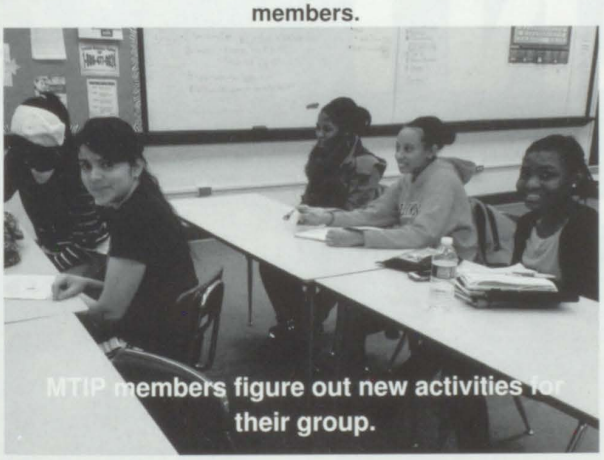
Anna Teggatz mentioned that her favorite book is *Across the Universe* by Beth Revis. "I would definitely recommend this book to other students because it is well written, it is full of suspense and mystery, and it has a unique plot that has not been overdone in contemporary literature." Teggatz explained, "I joined the Reading Rocks because I have always loved to read. I have stayed active in this club because it is enlightening to discuss topics within different books with other students my age."

The Reading Rocks are dedicated to showing how much fun reading really is.

The Future Matters Here

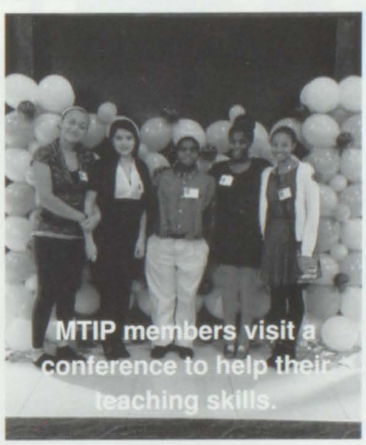
Above Left: MTIP members meet to discuss future events.
Above Right: Destiney Hearn helps her fellow MTIP members.

Many students don't think of their futures until their senior year of high school, never realizing there is a program to get them going from the start. MTIP (Minority Teacher Incentive Program) is there and ready to help every student. With their advisor, Mrs. Dieudonne, the group is never involved in dull activities. Their activities include ACT prep workshops, the Quad City Youth Conference, and college visits to help with the college decision making process. "Membership is open to all Rocky students, regardless of ethnicity," said Dieudonne. MTIP was originally focused on students who wanted a career in teaching, but that's no longer the case. The goal is focusing on exposing students to positive individuals and experiences that will impact their academic, social, and emotional growth. Your future is based on your choices you make in life. You can use MTIP as a Mission To Increase your Possibilities.



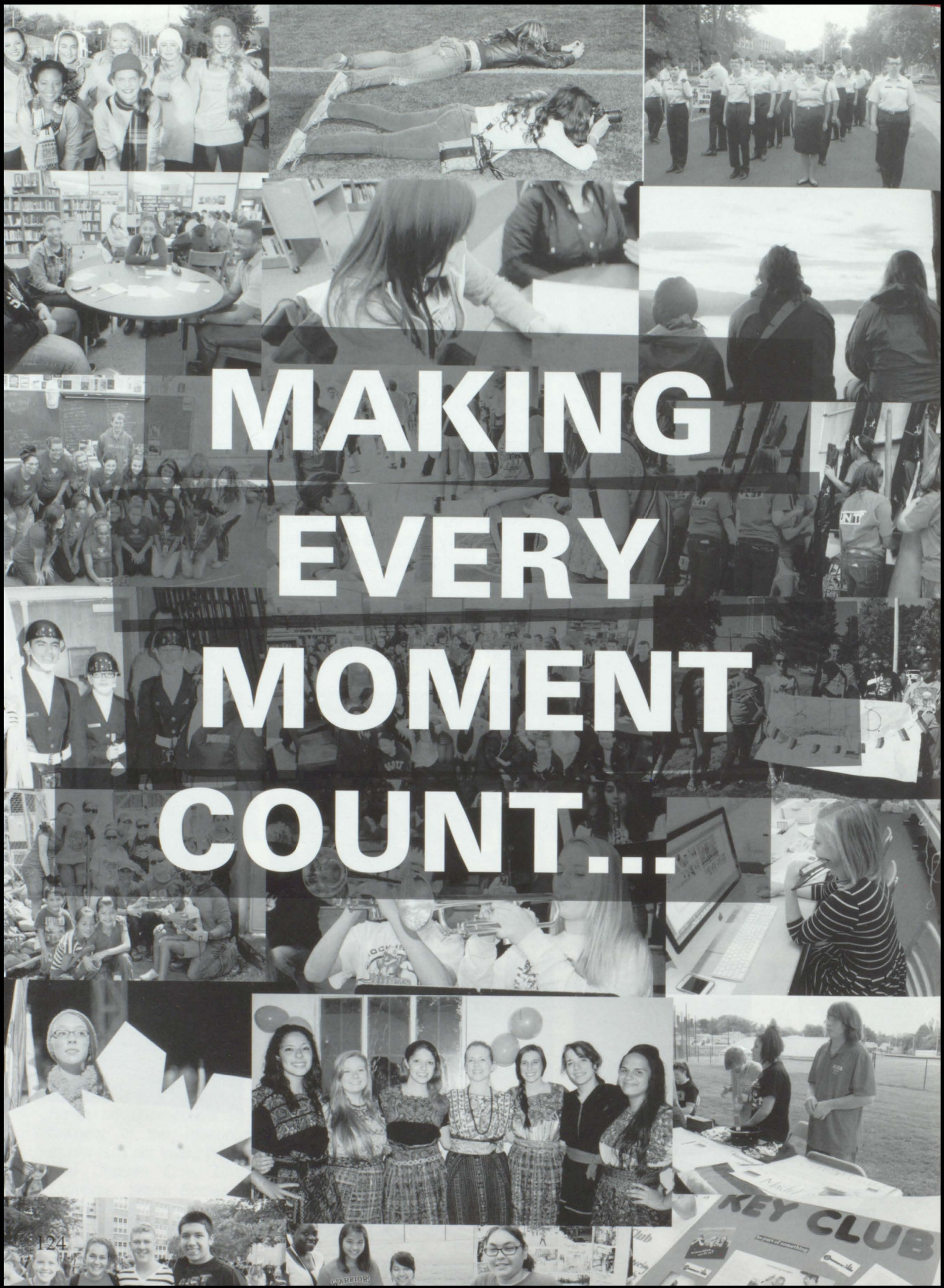
MTIP members figure out new activities for their group.

MTIP members come together as a team to have a good time and learn.



MTIP members visit a conference to help their teaching skills.

Above: The MTIP group works throughout the year to participate in conferences, community projects, and college visits to become better students and leaders.


MAKING
EVERY
MOMENT
COUNT...
KEY CLUB

ROCKS

Matters

Here

Top: Key Club members wear traditional clothes from their host families.
Middle: Alexia Avena helps work on Key Club's many projects in Guatemala.
Bottom: Key Club members pose while on their service trip in Guatemala.
Top Right: Maggie Pappas and Abby Williams work hard to make a difference on their trip.
Bottom Right: Key Club left behind more than just their mark in the sand after they left Guatemala.

Volunteering ...Matters Here

Key Club's primary goals are straightforward and simple: Helping Rocky and the community.

When Mrs. Kantner was in high school, Key Club was a very important part of her life, since she was involved with the club herself. Little did she know, that nothing was going to change once she began teaching. Key Club is an organization where students get the chance to volunteer and help others. Opportunities to get involved include assisting at animal shelters, benefits, and collecting items for the less fortunate. On paper, it sounds like a simple club. But in reality, Key Club is a whole lot more.

When the students get up early in the morning for meetings and bond by helping others, it starts to feel like a tight knit family. But that atmosphere might not be achieved as easily if Mrs. Kanter was not in charge of it. “She’s really inviting. She makes it feel like we’re all one big family coming together to do good for the community,” says one of the members, Abby Ford.

Mrs. Kanter’s number one priority when organizing events for the club is to bring everyone together. “I’ve learned that teenagers have a lot of potential to be leaders, and that they have real commitment. Anyone can serve for the community. Everyone comes together for the same goal, and they all work together,” Mrs. Kanter says, pleased with her group's work.

Mrs. Kantner devotes her time and energy into Key Club, and the club’s members very much appreciate it. “She’s awesome. She’s one of the nicest people I know, and I couldn’t pick someone better to be our Key Club leader,” Abby shares.

What is Mrs. Kanter's favorite part of it all? “Watching students become confident leaders. It’s good to see students who otherwise wouldn’t meet, work together.”

KEY CLUB INTERNATIONAL

Key Club

Variety Matters Here

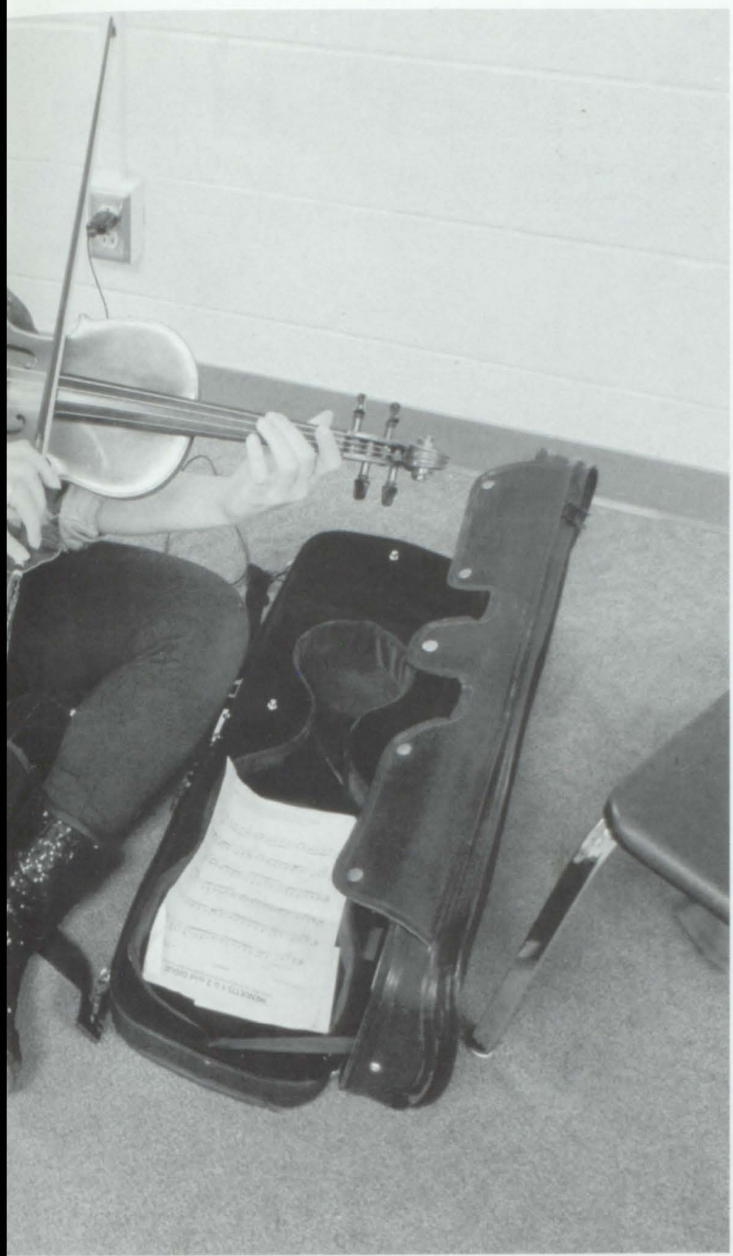
Positivity and enthusiasm are key when it comes to Rocky's Orchestra members. "We want to represent our school in a professional manner, and demonstrate the positive effect that classical music can have," Junior violin player, Nik Jacobs said. Rocky's Orchestra has taken their music to new limits. Playing an outstanding Christmas Program and creating an amazing rock group has made the members grow stronger, together and individually, as well as musically. "We spend so much time together as a whole. We work together, listen to each other, and through that, we have become closer to each other," Senior cello player, Sydney Taylor stated.

The main priority the Orchestra members want to achieve is to prove that there is much more that can be done with classical instruments than meets the eye. "We want to try to prove that Orchestra isn't just classical," Sophomore viola player, Json Rangel explains. "We can make it sound like rock, pop, country, and blue grass, as well." Their rock group demonstrates their amazing talent and hard work.

Some members of the Orchestra want to continue to play their instruments after high school. "I want to become a musical therapist, and also play at weddings," said Sydney Taylor. Many of the members have been playing since fourth, fifth, and sixth grade. Their dedication proves how much practice really does pay off.

Above: Mr. Manweiler, the Orchestra director, prepares the members before their performance.

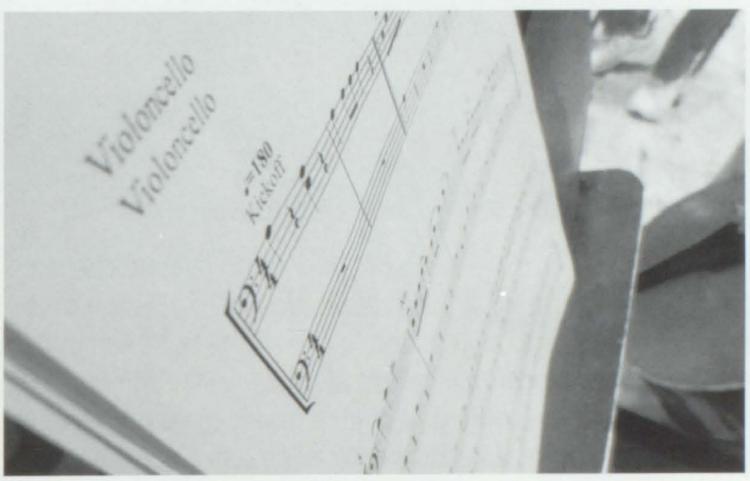
Left: The Orchestra performs during their annual Christmas program.



Left: Mikhayla Hughes-Shaw warms up for rehearsal.

Below: Orchestra students rehearse on stage for their performance.

Bottom: Members of the Orchestra take the time to learn their sheet music.



The Rock Island High School 2013-14 Orchestra

Madison Smith plays the viola in the Christmas concert.

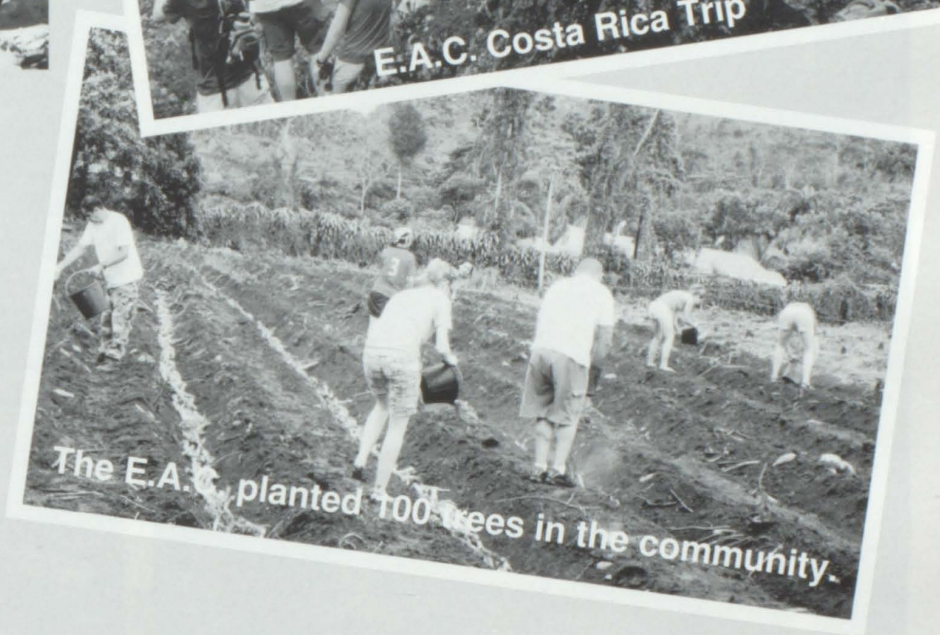
REBUILDING Matters Here

There are more threats to the environment today than the world has ever seen, and it is important to take responsibility for protecting it. The Environmental Action Club does just that, and works hard to make the community a better place. The club is involved in numerous outreach activities, like volunteering in X-Stream Clean Up, planting trees, Adopt-a-Highway, pulling invasive plants, and the recycle program at the high school. E.A.C. students are doing what most students usually avoid. The club prides itself on participating in small service projects that have a big impact. "They think that by doing little by little, they will make big differences in the community. Our goals are to participate in as many community events as possible, and help them with organization," said Mrs. Wolber. E.A.C. isn't all about work, they like to have fun as well. There are activities for all students who are involved in the club, such as canoing, skiing, and bonfires. "I think that the club is really great. I learn more things and interact with new people," said Karen Costilla.

E.A.C. members showed up for the 31st Avenue Clean Up to remove waste quickly due to the weather. They were able to pull out 6 tires, 2 plastic barrels, a chair, a dolly, 2 fire extinguishers, and filled numerous bags with styrofoam.

Grant Fessier, Deannea Tanner, Ben Nevins, Tlang Kip Par, July Paw, and Htoo Doh marched in the Labor Day Parade in Rock Island.

Illinois River Conferences: E.A.C. worked with people from Fish and Wildlife, E.P.A. and Soil, and the Water Conservation District.



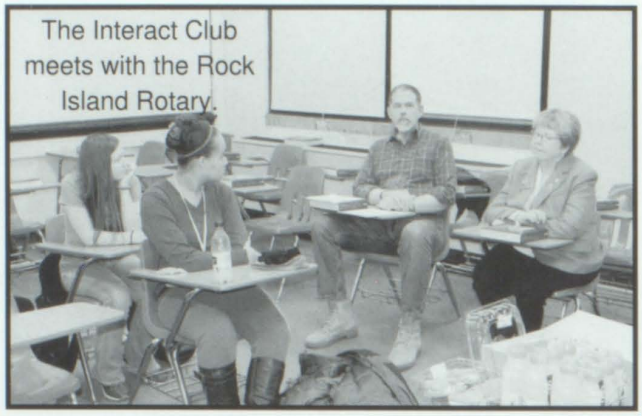
Above: X-Stream Clean Up-- E.A.C. students show their excitement for the X-Stream Clean Up at Sunset Park. "Living in a town surrounded by the rivers, I feel it is my responsibility to keep our rivers healthy. I also like the sense of friendship made between strangers who share the same interest. After doing cleanups, I love seeing the differences we made in the quality of the Mississippi," said E.A.C. President, Alicia Freiburg.

E.A.C. Costa Rica Trip: The E.A.C. believes protecting the environment is the most important way to make a better community. This past summer, Mrs. Wolber and a group of E.A.C. students went to Costa Rica to research turtles and help plant one hundred trees in the community. They spent ten days volunteering and helping the community. Students visited the Arenal Volcano and helped plant yucca roots at an organic farm. "The students are opening their eyes to the life of another country," said Mrs. Wolber.

The students tried to catch Monarch butterflies in order to place a small tag on their wings. This would allow people in Mexico to identify them as they land from their migration routes.

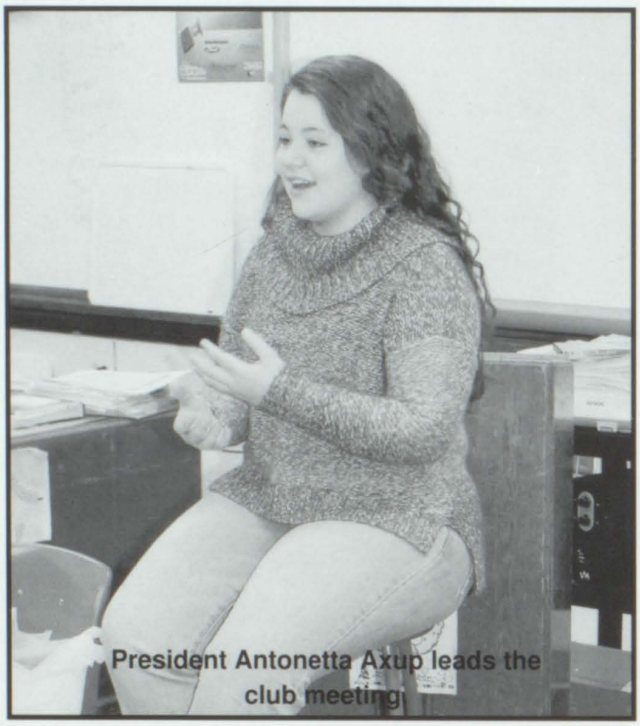
Elijah Westmorland tries to catch the Monarch butterfly to show the other students.

Back: Jacob Ramos, Cullen George, Packer Westmorland, Kayla Jackson, Paris Roberts, Mrs. Wolber, Ben Nevins
Middle: Humberto (our guide), July Paw, Tathanew Laweh, Htoo Ka Paw
Front: Lindsey Steger, Sam Kirzeder, Yancy (driver)

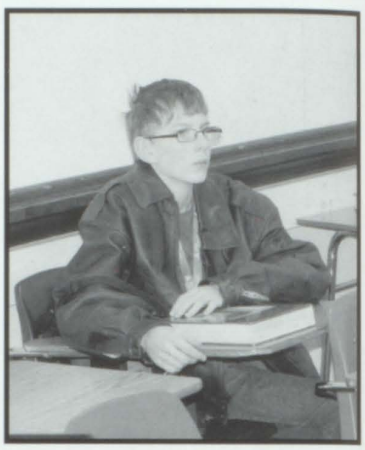


The Interact Club meets with the Rock Island Rotary.

The 2013-14 Interact Club



President Antonetta Axup leads the club meeting.



Ms. Bonner is the club advisor.

Being Involved Matters Here

Worldwide, people help each other because helping others is what makes the world go round. Students at Rocky help around the school, even if there is little to be done. The name Interact Club speaks for itself. The group works with the local Rotary Club to assist community members with any needs they may have. They also help with worldwide relief efforts, like helping to end polio.

With a group as involved as this group, helping at any level is not an impossible task, especially with their hardworking president, Antonetta Axup, helping them achieve their goals. "I hope to get the club more involved in the community and school," said Axup.

Bonding and having fun with this club is also one of the benefits. One of their most popular events is the Student vs. Staff basketball game. The Interact Club is a great opportunity for students to become more involved in their school, local, and international communities. "By joining the club, a person can have fun and help the community at the same time," said Axup. There is no way to lose in this group, except by not being involved.

RECOGNITION **MATTERS HERE**

Hard work and dedication pay off when National Honor Society is taken into consideration. The purpose of this group is to recognize the hardworking students in school, and their service and their character.

Students who are a part of National Honor Society must maintain a 3.5 or higher G.P.A., along with the ten community service hours and the ten dollar fee each year. However, as advisor Mrs. Hayek says, "It is not only about the high G.P.A., but mainly about the students striving to achieve their own personal goal."

Not only is this group an honor to be a part of, but this also gives the students and staff members the opportunity to meet the variety of people with similar goals that they have. Vice President Juli Jespersen agrees, as she says, "Being in a group of peers with the same interests as you really makes you feel unstoppable." These students all come together at the end of the year for the ceremony to be rewarded for their excellent work. President Jasmine Babers says, "It is like a good reward for working hard."

National Honor Society is a good representation of the types of students who attend Rocky. Not only does this give them the recognition for their academic skills, but also their determination and commitment to themselves and their school.

1 Top Right: Junior members Courtney Smith, Courtney Pearson, Monee' Turner, and Maddy Perry check on their service hours.

2 Right: Senior members, Mackenzie Leatherman and Claire Bacon sit in on the NHS meeting.

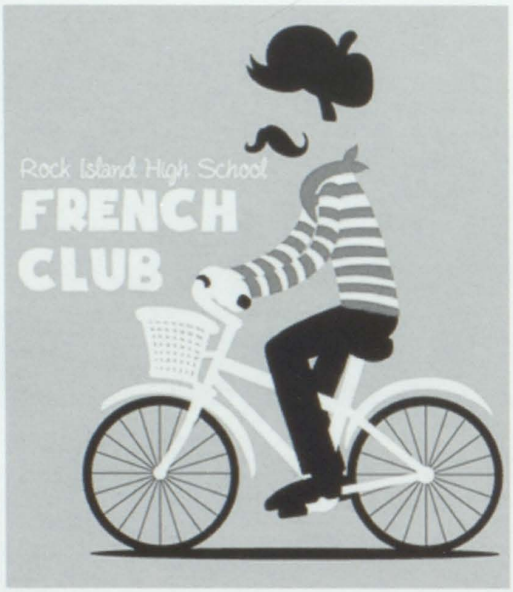
3 Far Right: Kirsten Tauke collects the papers for the junior nominations.

4 The senior members of the National Honor Society

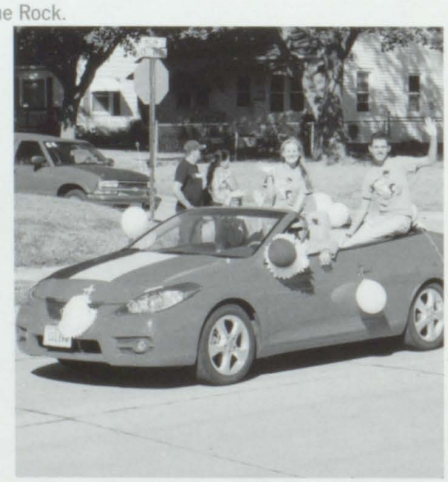
French Club

New Opportunities **Matter Here**

For the Rock Island French Club, one of the main goals is to celebrate and learn about the French culture. Through French Club, students can sample French foods, take part in French traditions, such as Mardi Gras, and help see into a different culture other than the one presented. "French Club gives me an opportunity to get involved in my school while learning about a new culture," says Co-President Sidney Laughlin. Annual events for the club include a back-to-school picnic, participation in the Homecoming Parade, a holiday dinner at the Le Figaro French restaurant, a Mardi Gras celebration, and a trip to the Art Institute of Chicago. "The French Club activities are always a great way to meet new people. I love the Mardi Gras party every year, and you can't go wrong with the Chicago trip!" states club member Allyson Boyle.



Top Left: The club's new 2013-2014 t-shirt design.
Top Right: The Club gathers for a picture before dinner at Le Figaro in downtown Rock Island.
Right: Club members Jameila Smith and Co-President KiAnna Jones work the French Club table at Rally at the Rock.



Left: Co-Presidents Sidney Laughlin and KiAnna Jones pose with Madame Bouchareb after dinner at Le Figaro.
Right: Junior Skylar Frank and senior Steven Nowinski wave from the French Club car in the Homecoming Parade.

Above: French Club officers pose with club adviser Madame Bouchareb. They are, from left, Rebecca VanSeveren, Sidney Laughlin, KiAnna Jones, Steven Nowinski, and Allyson Boyle.

German Club *Culture* Matters Here

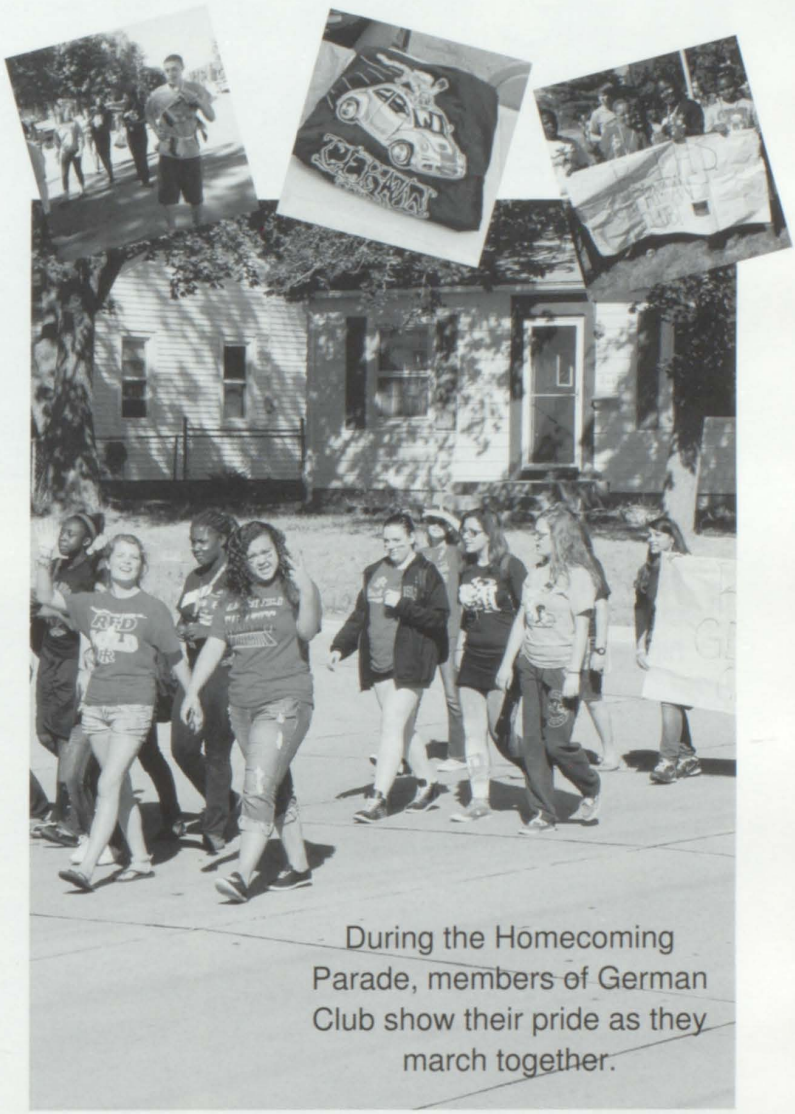
Rocky's German Club encourages all students, regardless of their German-speaking abilities, to come and join in on the fun. Students of all grades have a great time attending potlucks, Oktoberfest, and socializing with other students.

Many changes have come to German Club this year, such as teaming up with the French Club. "I think it's a great opportunity to bring different cultures together," says club supervisor, Mr. Nick Eli. "And speaking of culture, we have our very own German-exchange student with us this year! Soeren Sierck, who is a junior." Soeren has spent the year helping the club learn more about German culture.

The German program seems to attract many adventurers because it's the only language program that offers a chance to travel to Germany this summer through the German Exchange Partnership Program that happens once every two years. Students get to spend a month in Germany with their peers, and the only requirement is two years of German. Rebecca Galvin, the German Club Vice President, says, "I'm definitely going! It's a once in a lifetime opportunity, and I'm really excited."

"People should join German Club to experience a culture outside of our own, and get involved in a lot of fun activities that are unlike what other groups do," states German Club President, Vanessa Spidle.

German Club is expanding and improving more and more each year, and accepts all students. The group has fun decorating the halls, designing club t-shirts, and enjoying German foods! German Club members not only get a unique educational experience unlike others at Rocky, but they also have great time learning about a world beyond their own.

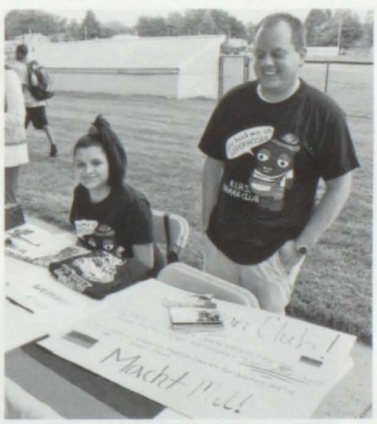


During the Homecoming Parade, members of German Club show their pride as they march together.

Guys from the club try some German Mineralwasser (mineral water). It is definitely an acquired taste!

The club president recruits new club members with the help of members Tony Flaherty and Robert Ducey.

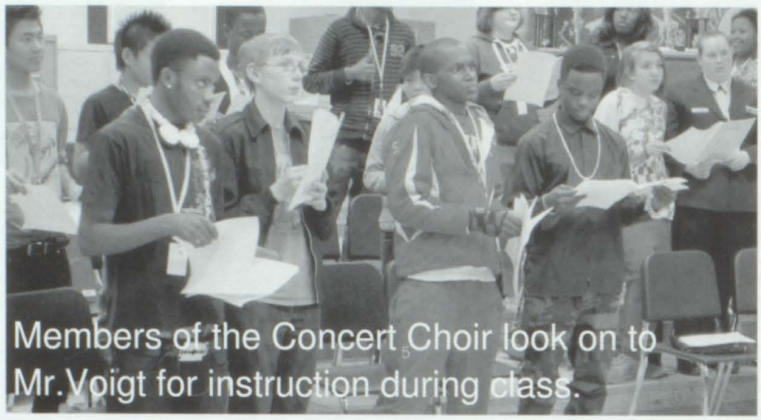
The German Club has fun at the Weinachten (Christmas) party, enjoying German drinks and chocolate.



Vanessa Spidle and German teacher, Mr. Eli recruit new students for German Club at Rally at the Rock.

CONCERT CHOIR

Mr.Voigt conducts rehearsal with the Concert Choir.

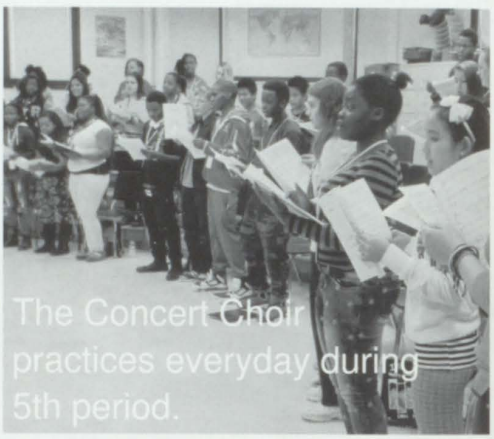


Members of the Concert Choir look on to Mr.Voigt for instruction during class.

Concert Choir may be the starting level choir at Rocky, but it's also where future leaders and musical talents are discovered. "Discovering hidden talent in students with no previous choir experience is my favorite part of directing," choir director, Mr. Voigt states.

A unique aspect of this year's choir is its diversity. Out of the 52 students, 21 of them did not speak English as a first language. Regardless of language, choir has helped all students learn to work together to discover their desire for making music. In the process, choir helps with language development for all students. Mr. Voigt says, "We work extensively on vocal technique in a variety of languages, which greatly increases all the students' language abilities."

Concert Choir has brought students together, helped them learn how to work well with others, appreciate and learn about other cultures, as well as become more talented vocalists. For this choir, achievement is more than just performing well, but also learning to appreciate music, perform individually and as a group, and continually improving.



The Concert Choir practices everyday during 5th period.

ACHIEVEMENT *Matters Here*

Concert Choir

Practice Matters Here

Throughout the school year, the Symphonic Choir is constantly practicing for their next concert. They have a concert each quarter to get ready for. Mr. Voigt, the choir teacher, compares the choir to a family because of the relationships they develop with each other.

Getting everything together for the concerts is a lot of work. "At times, there's stress. There's a lot of details to get ready," explains Voigt. He and Mrs. Bolt, the pianist for the choir, work with students individually to get them ready, as well as the whole group all together. Although there is stress, there are some talented newcomers who help out a lot with Symphonic Choir. Kira Rangel is a transfer student from Chicago. Voigt explains that she is a great addition to the soprano section, having already had a couple of solos to prove it. Jakob Beierlein has also been a good addition to Symphonic Choir. Voigt explains that this is his first year in choir, and he helps with the bass section.

Although choir has many concerts a year to prepare for, the big Pops Concert at the end of the year is the one everyone is excited for. "I'm looking forward to the Pops Concert. There is always a fun theme to it. We get to dance, and it's so much fun," said Hailey Jungjohahn, a senior Symphonic Choir student. The Pops Concert is the very last choir performance of the year, and a lot of students, not just the choir students, are excited about it. The concert has a different theme every year, and also features dancing. "We have one theme. There is an opener that is with all of the choirs, a slide show for the seniors, and a closer at the end with all of the choirs," explains Mr. Voigt. The past years' themes have been 80's and Disney. The choir sings and dances to the songs that go with the theme. The theme for this year's Pops Concert is Broadway musicals!

There is a lot to be done to get ready for the Pops Concert. They start early with practice to perfect everything. They hire a choreographer to teach the dances, who usually comes 4-6 weeks before the concert. They also have a drummer and a bass player who are either a band student at Rocky, or hired. The Pops Concert is an exciting event for the choir students. Olivia Henning, a junior Symphonic Choir student states, "I can't wait for the Pops Concert. It's really a lot of fun, but we have to work hard to learn all of the dances and music."

Mr. Voigt works to make sure his choir is prepared for their concert.

Rocky's 2013-14 Symphonic Choir.

Playing the piano, Mrs. Bolt helps the choir with their music.

What Matters About Symphonic Choir?

"I like to experience the difference between my country's choir and the American choir."
- July Paw

"I get to come to class every day, and enjoy the people I'm around and learn new things."
- Hailey Jungjohann

"I like the experience of being in my church choir and this choir because I love singing."
- Dennicia Hickman

"I like being able to walk into a classroom and be able to trust everyone, and becoming a family throughout the year."
- Veda Rossi

"I enjoy being in Symphonic Choir! How we sing in Africa is different than here, and I like to experience the difference."
- Joselyne Nimpaye

How has Chamber Choir impacted your high school career?

"Chamber Choir has changed me as a person, and allowed me to encounter so many different people that I have been able to impact with my singing. Chamber Choir remains one of the most amazing and interesting parts of my life. I wouldn't be the same person without ever being in Chamber Choir."

Marcus Jackson

"Chamber Choir has impacted my life in such a positive way. I have become so much more confident in myself, and my music. I love getting to express myself with others who have the same interests."

Jordan Bowden

"Chamber Choir has helped me further my music education in high school, and get ready for my future career as a music therapist."

Sydney Taylor

"Chamber Choir has brought me to meet friends that I would have never met otherwise, and it has offered me opportunities to expand my musical knowledge. I feel extremely blessed to have been able to be a part of this wonderful group."

Jenn Michel

Performance

MATTERS HERE

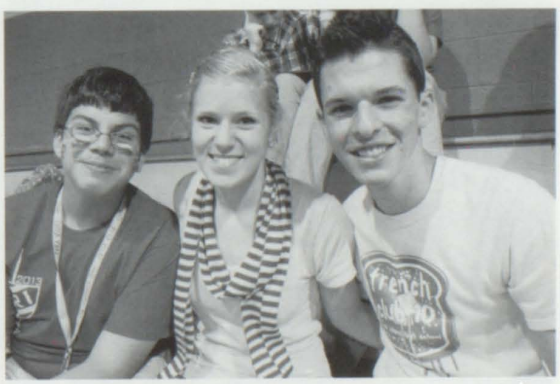
The 2013-2014 Chamber Choir had a great year spreading joy through music in the Rock Island community. The members of the choir not only have to perform individually, but come together and sing as a group to make their music sound beautiful.

This group spends countless hours rehearsing, memorizing, and performing all types of songs from madrigals to Christmas carols to pop music. During first semester, they rehearse IMEA music, and in the second semester, they rehearse music for Solo & Ensemble Contest. “It's not easy to pull off difficult pieces of music,” Senior member Steven Nowinski says.This Chamber Choir is willing to take on the challenge.

The month of December is definitely one of the group's finest moments. This group and their director, Scott Voigt, travel to multiple locations throughout the area, and performs to help spread holiday cheer. Between restaurants, nursing homes, and county parties, these students really impacted the community's Christmas spirit during the holiday season. “This group really pulls together throughout the hectic Christmas season. We all care about one another, and we really become a family,” explains senior Jordan Bowden.

The group is put together at the end of the previous year. The audition process includes singing "My Country 'Tis of Thee" on your voice part, note matching, note recognition, and answering an essay and a short answer question. Being a part of Chamber Choir is an activity students must be very dedicated to. “This group is dependent on the people, and how we interact with each other, especially when we're together for so long,” says Steven Nowinski. Between practice time and learning songs, the group is constantly working to make their performances amazing.

Through teamwork, practice, and a love of singing, the 2013-2014 Chamber Choir was a complete success.



Musicianship Matters Here

The Symphonic Band had another really great year! They continued their excellence this year by traveling to Western Illinois University to perform in their annual Showcase of Bands. The weekend-long trip included rehearsals with multiple directors from the university, sectional workshops, and master classes with professional musicians. The band also traveled to Elmhurst College to work with Dr. Kellan, director of bands, to prepare for the weekend at Western. Mr. Carlin, band director at Rocky, is very proud of the Symphonic Band. "They were amazing. It was an exceptional performance," he said. Even the assistant director, Mr. Tollenaer, said, "They made me proud to be an alum." However, the students understand their success is also due to the hard work of their directors.

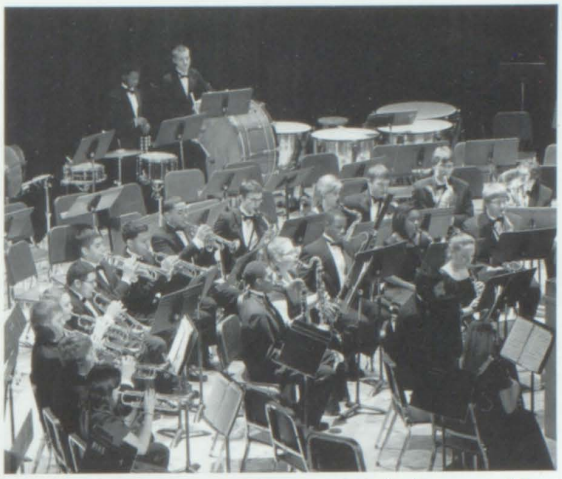
Symphonic Band is a very intense class. Brittany Anderson, a junior clarinet player, and brand new member to the band, is up to the challenge. "I've learned lots of new things," she says. "The music is more fun, and I love practicing more, and now I try harder to become a better musician." In Symphonic Band, students learn about the Pyramid of Sound, different music styles, and technical studies, all while playing more difficult music. The class is all about making students better musicians, while having fun along the way.

As for the senior members of the band, they are going to miss the Rocky Symphonic Band, and its members. "I'm going to miss the friendships, bonding, and the laughs," says senior clarinet player, Katie Phillips. "After this experience, I am able to take a more active role in performance, and appreciate music more as an audience member!" After long rehearsals, lots of traveling, and hard work, the students of the Rocky Symphonic Band are definitely going far.

The Symphonic Band stands for applause after their performance at the WIU Showcase of Bands.

Above: The Woodwinds rehearse at Elmhurst College with Dr. Kellan.
Below: The Percussion Section solos in the piece *Night on Fire* during a rehearsal at WIU.

The Trumpet Section rehearses their performance music at WIU.

The Low Brass Section rehearses at Elmhurst College with Dr. Kellan.

Above: The trumpet, saxophone, and clarinet players of the Concert Band perform at the Winter Concert.
Below: Band director Pete Carlin directs the Concert Band at the Winter Concert.

The Concert Band is a really great group to open your eyes to a love of music. Most freshmen start off in this band to get a feel for what high school band is like, and to develop their music skills more. "Concert Band gives me the help I need to be a better musician," says freshman Jarred McClendon. Then, there are students like Bibiana Hernandez, who love music so much, they join any music group they can. "Playing in Concert Band, as well as Symphonic and Jazz Band allows me to play my trumpet more, and get more experience," she explains. This group loves music and performance.

Performance Matters Here

All That Jazz Matters Here

The Jazz Band is a great way for Rocky students to let go and have fun with their instruments. "It's really laid back, but at the same time, I'm learning a lot more techniques than I was in junior high," says freshman Ellie Hoeper. "It's a really fun class with a lot of great opportunities." Jazz Band is all about letting go with music, and letting your talent shine. It is also a great opportunity to learn more and try out new things. Junior French horn player Cody Franks is learning how to play the trumpet for Jazz Band. "It was really interesting and rewarding to experiment with a new instrument," he explains. "I love Jazz Band because it's so relaxed, and it's a nice time to just play an instrument, and enjoy the music you create."

Above: Members from the Rhythm Section jam out during the Winter Concert. From left: sophomore Jakob Beierlein on the piano, freshman Alex Axup on bass guitar, and junior Bryan Ross on the drumset.
Below: The Wind Section of the Jazz Band closes the Winter Concert on a fun note. The other band students love to get a front row seat to the action!

Unity Matters Here

What will the seniors miss the most about being in Marching Band?

"I will miss the directors the most. Carlin and I have always been able to joke around. He and the other directors have made a huge impact on my high school career."

Jacklyn Young

"I'll miss the friendly environment, the family feel, and the commitment to the band."

Eli Meek-Bobb

"I will miss the friends, competitions, band camp, and the responsibility of being a drum major. Marching Band has been a huge part of my life for the past 4 years, and I will miss every single part of it."

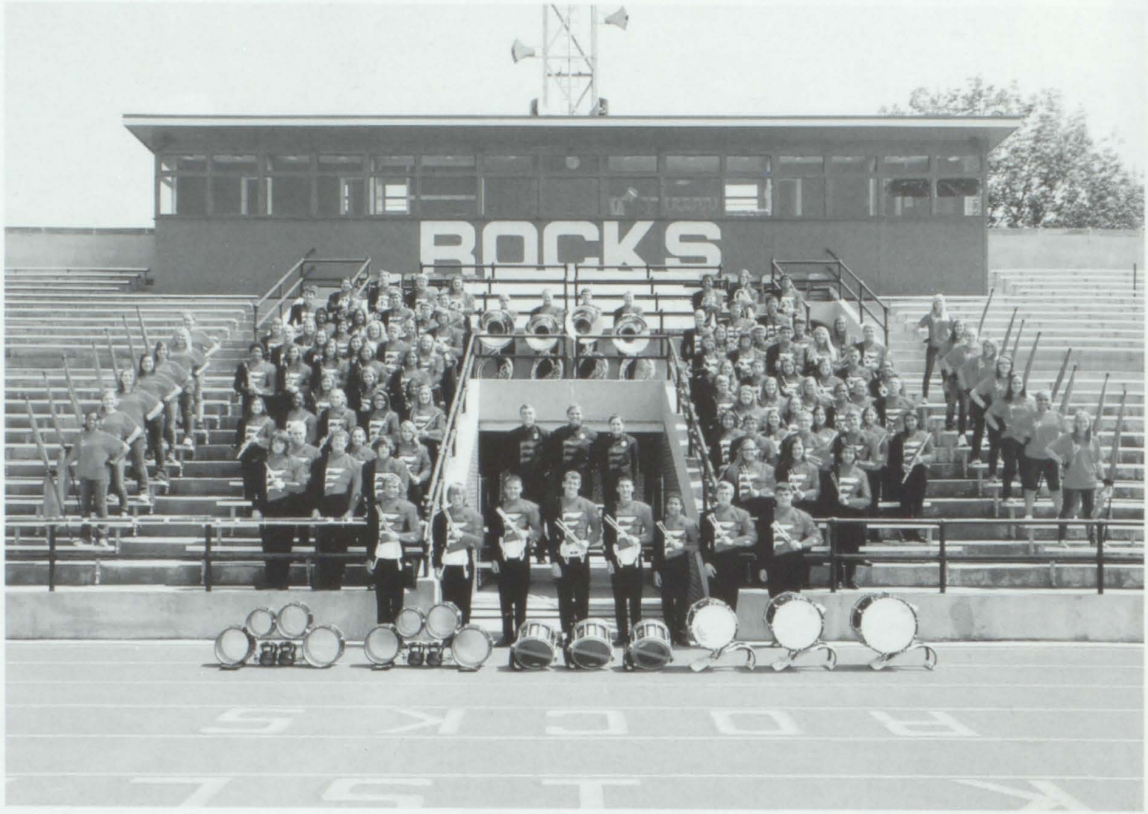
Jennifer Michel

"I'll miss the feeling I get after a show, when the crowd goes crazy and we know that all of our hard work and determination has paid off."

Chandler Work

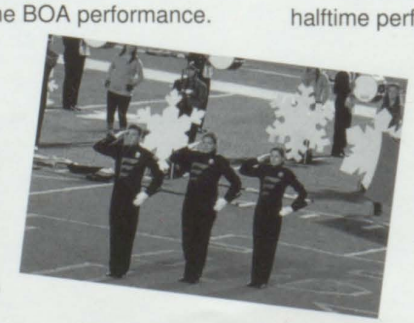
"I will miss the people and all the great memories we made together, and performing together as a unit to create an art that makes people happy."

Ellie Phillis



Top: Frontline members Tyler Peterson, Cory Harris, and Maggie Hinton perform at BOA. Above: The Colorguard "sleds down the hill" during the BOA performance.

Top: The Band entertains the crowd during halftime at a home football game with their show. Above: The Band "troops the stands" after a halftime performance, a tradition at home games.



"March softy and carry two sticks." - Harrison Phillis

"Always capture the moment, feel the calm, feel the attack, fight the fight up from, but make sure to listen back." - Bowen Sanders

"Our favorite part about band is the feeling we have after a competition, when we and our directors know we have done well, even if we didn't win. Then, afterwards, we have an amazing time on the bus ride home with our band family!" - Alex Axup & Ellie Hoeper

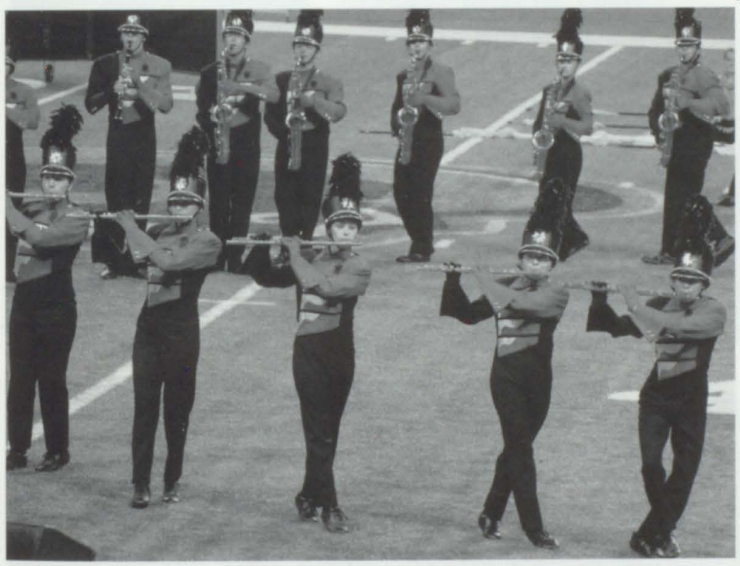
"I'm glad I joined Color Guard because I got to meet so many new people, and make some really great memories." - Kate McChesney

"It's too bad we don't use trombones in Marching Band anymore. I kind of miss whacking people in the back of the head." - Max Friestad

The Pride of Rock Island Marching Band had a fantastic year! From traveling to an out-of-state competition for the first time to placing at almost every competition, this was definitely a season to remember. This year's show, "Snow Day," was different from previous shows about love and the loss of it. Band Director, Mr. Carlin said, "Since the last three shows were all love stories, we wanted to try something different. We wanted something that was just fun." The show was all about what Rock Island kids do on snow days, like sledding, and having fun in the snow. The band was joined on the field by a variety of props: an abundance of snowflakes, a seven foot snowman, a snow plow, and snowballs.

The band traveled to St. Louis to perform at the Bands of America Regional Competition this year. Bands from all over the country travel to B.O.A. to perform for hundreds of people. "I never dreamed that our band would be doing the things at the level they are now, like going to Bands of America. As a director, I am amazed at how far they have come in just a few short years," said assistant band director, Mr. Tollenaer. This year was full of many "firsts." For example, another amazing feat this year, for the Pride of Rock Island, was making it to the finals for the first time in band history at a preliminary/final competition in Downers Grove. "I was proud, and had a feeling of vindication that the band belonged at finals because of all their hard work," said Carlin.

Within the band, Carlin often compares the group to a house. The beginning of the season to the end is the construction, and the final performance is the finishing touch. And, how did the house look at the end of the season? According to Carlin, "It looked expensive." The success of this year was attributed to the stress on unity within the band. The band all got similar snowflake necklaces to wear for their last few performances to represent that unity. Next year, the band plans on doing even better, and they will do it being led by the next senior Drum Major, Meghan Wells. She said, "Next year is unnerving, but I am up for the challenge, and I cannot wait!" She added, "The Pride of Rock Island never fails to impress. We are family, we stick together, and work hard to create a masterpiece."



Flute, Clarinet, and Saxophone players of the Woodwind Section play at Bands of America.

Members of the Brass Section play the ending of the second movement of the show at Bands of America.

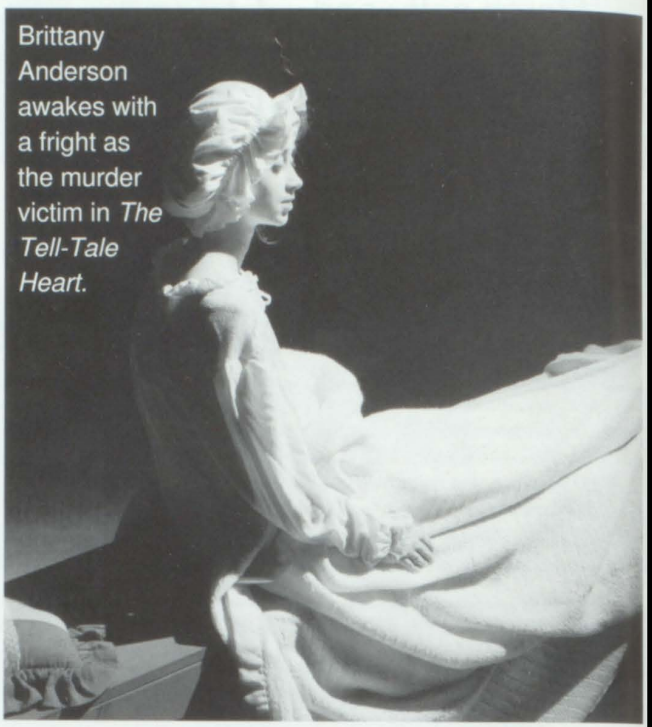
Horror Matters Here

It was a dark and stormy Halloween night when forty students interpreted tales of mystery, madness, and murder. This fall, the Drama Department worked hard to put on a show unlike any other in Rocky's history. *A Dark Night* was an adaptation of five works from the father of American horror, Edgar Allan Poe. Drama Club Director Mrs. Foster turned the stories *The Tell-Tale Heart*, *Berenice*, *The Masque of the Red Death*, along with the poems *Dream Within a Dream*, and *The Raven* into scripts ready to be brought to life on the stage.

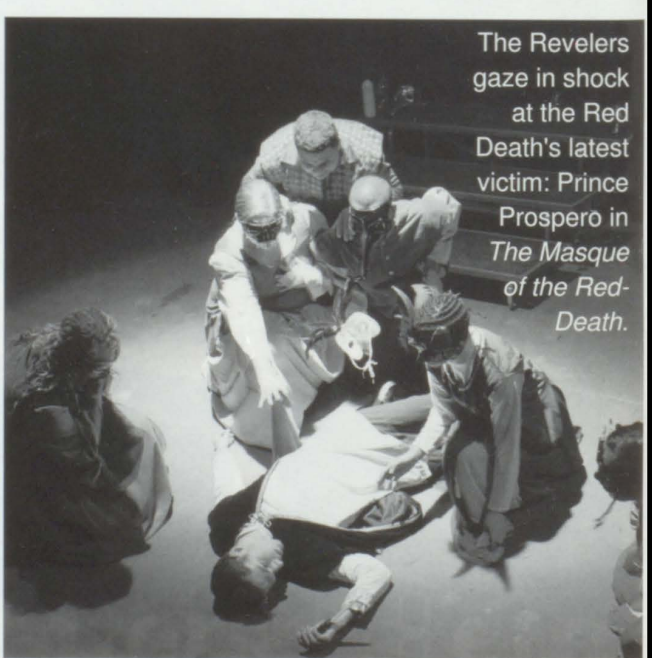
Besides putting on a show with no prior existing script, the Drama Department took on another huge challenge this fall- the three-quarter stage setup. By building bleachers on the auditorium stage, they were able to bring the audience within inches of the action, meaning that the actors had audience members in front of and on either side of them. Mrs. Foster said, "I felt like it was time for us to take risks and perform in a setting we've never performed in before." Taylor Schneider, the narrator in *The Raven*, said, "It was difficult at first to 'distance myself,' to be able to get into character as the audience was so close and surrounding me."

Along with these new struggles, the actors also dealt with the same problems always faced in the theater. For Taylor, this was in showing her character's emotions. "As the narrator of *The Raven*, I had trouble finding the anger and desperation that he [Poe] feels in the poem. I had to put so much emotion into the words I said, and had to dig so much deeper within myself than I ever have for any role prior," she explained. Rebecca Galvin, who played the Red Death in *The Masque of the Red Death*, said the difficulty was, "Not having anyone to draw ideas from, because it was never done before."

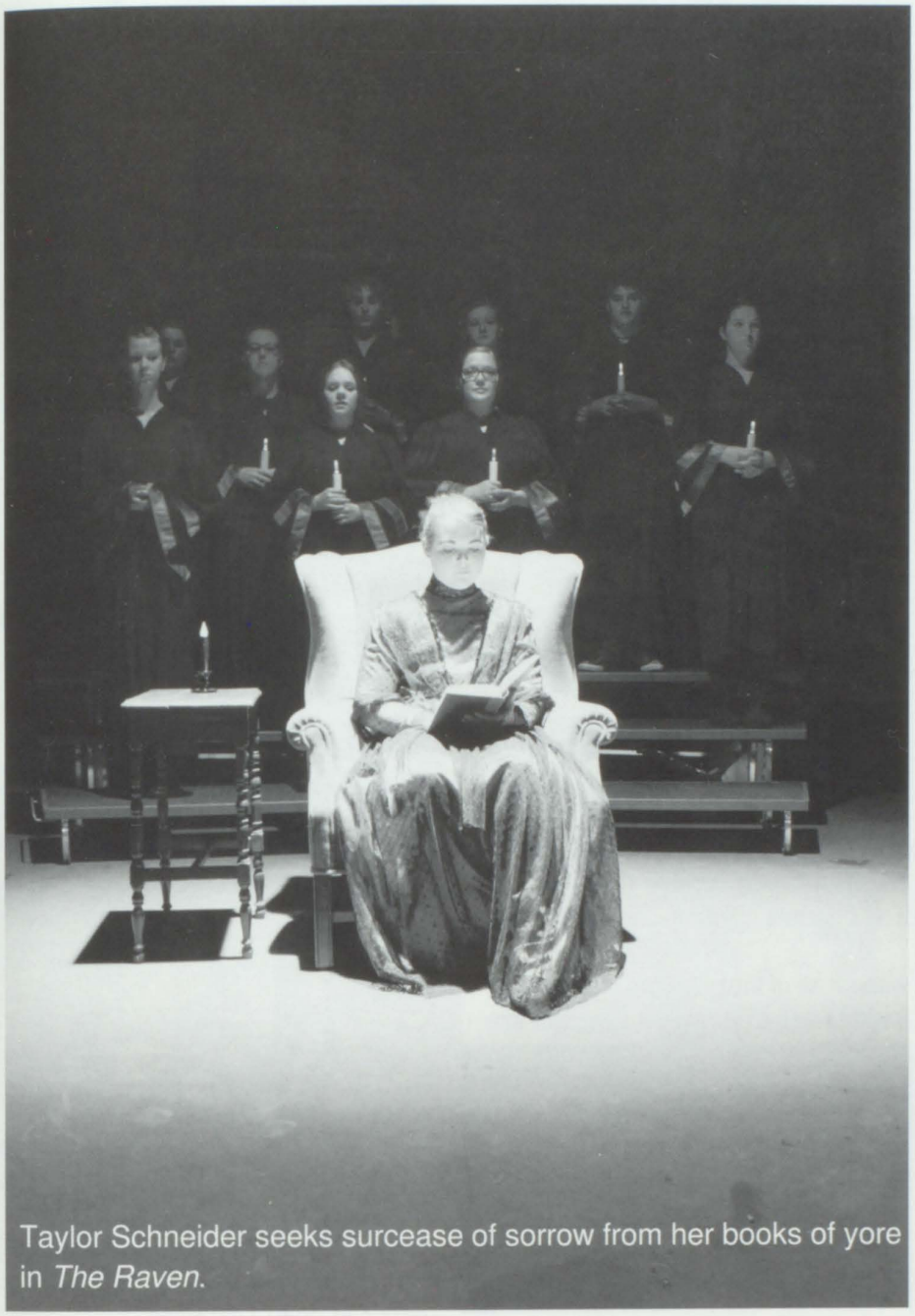
Despite all the challenges they faced this year, the Drama Department managed to put on a show that required extra seating on opening night, and more each following night. *A Dark Night* clearly showed the Drama Department's hard work and dedication. Poe himself would have been proud of the performance.



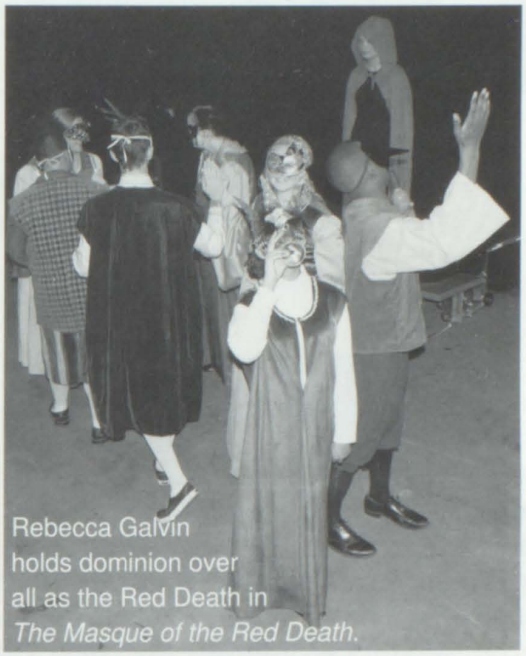
Brittany Anderson awakes with a fright as the murder victim in *The Tell-Tale Heart.*



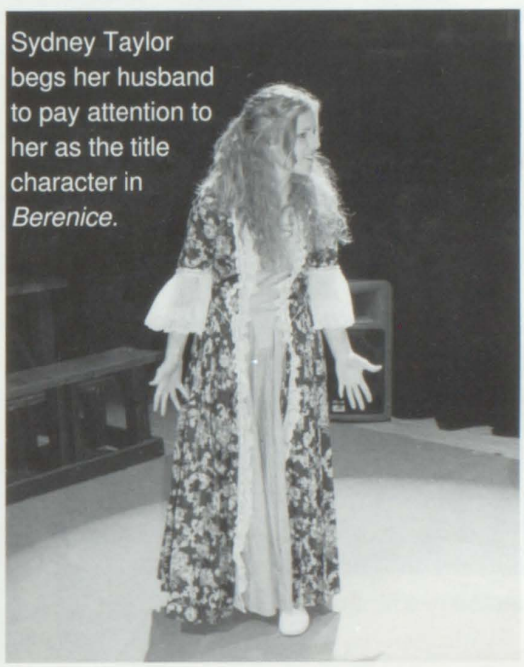
The Revelers gaze in shock at the Red Death's latest victim: Prince Prospero in *The Masque of the Red-Death.*



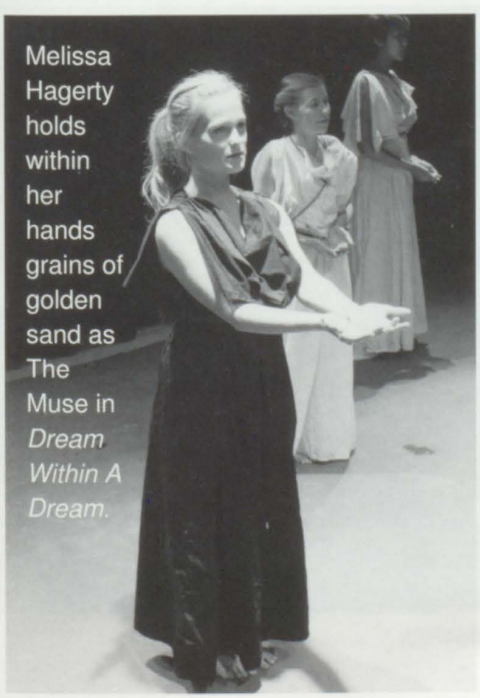
Taylor Schneider seeks surcease of sorrow from her books of yore in *The Raven*.



Rebecca Galvin holds dominion over all as the Red Death in *The Masque of the Red Death*.

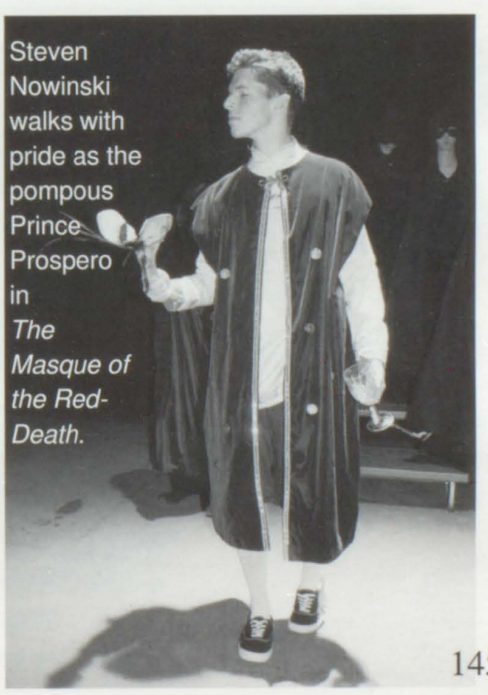


Sydney Taylor begs her husband to pay attention to her as the title character in *Berenice*.



Melissa Hagerty holds within her hands grains of golden sand as The Muse in *Dream Within A Dream*.

Katie Phillips and Devin James play Mr. and Mrs. Toulson in *Berenice*.



Steven Nowinski walks with pride as the pompous Prince Prospero in *The Masque of the Red-Death*.

SPRING MUSICAL

"Crazy for You"

"Every student needs an outlet for expression. Theater here provides an outlet for those who like to create and discover. That's what we do."

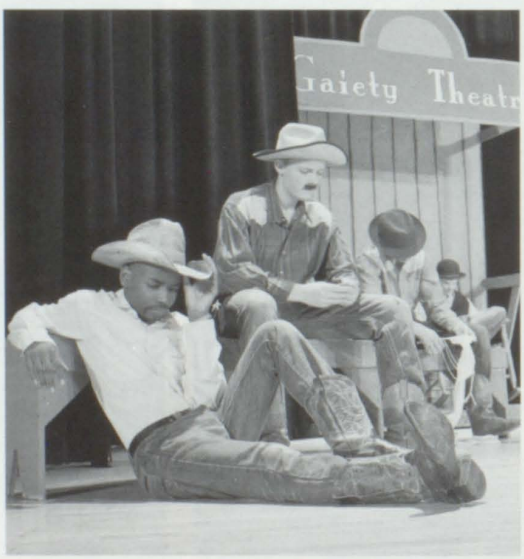
Mrs. Foster, Musical Director

Lights, Camera, Action! The RIHS Theatre and Music Departments came together to recreate this fun, romantic musical, "Crazy for You," written by Ken Ludwig. "Crazy for You" is the story of Bobby Child, a 1930's playboy, who is sent to a small town in Nevada to close down the local theater, but ends up saving it instead, all while getting closer to the love of his life, Polly. The cast, crew, and pit all had a lot of fun this year making this show happen. "The musical is very time consuming, but worth it!" expressed junior, Graham Woods. Helping to hold the whole program together is one very important lady. Director Mrs. Foster is the 'life of the party' in the musical. Students look up to her, and she loves the students as her own. "We do warm-ups, a well-wishing 'woo-hoo' circle. Basically, we go crazy, and get pumped up before we go on. We include everyone, even crew," explained Mrs. Foster. All the cast and crew members worked really hard on the musical, and it was very well received by the audience. Junior, Tyler Peterson said, "I think it went very well. All the time and effort into making it as close to perfect as possible. Overall, our efforts paid off."

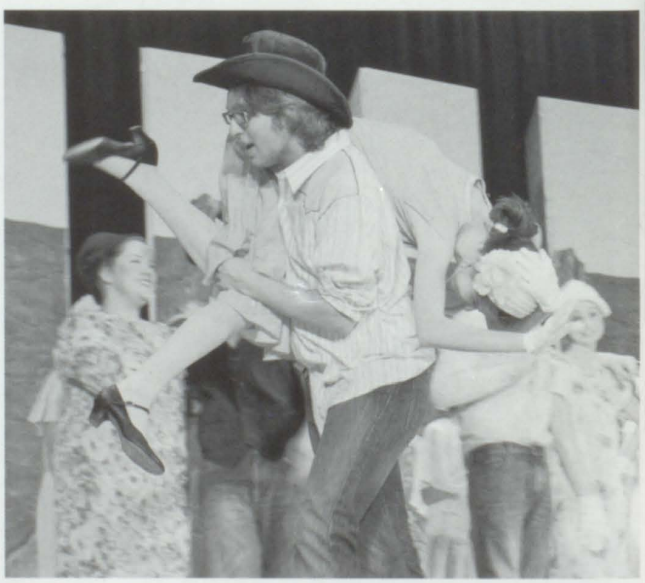
The Spring Musical couldn't have been possible without all of the directors, cast, crew, and pit who do what they love. A big "Thank you" to all who made this musical a memorable one is much deserved.

The Follies Girls teach the Cowboys to dance in "Slap That Bass."

Marcellus Angel and Jakob Beierlein played their roles as Harry and Wyatt. They sat off bidin' their time.



Katie Phillips gets carried off the stage by Matt Benson, who plays Moose.



Expression Matters Here

The Cast of "Crazy for You" is ready for opening night!

The cast danced to "Slap that Bass," where the girls teach the cowboys how to dance.

Bobby Child and the Follies Girls sing and dance to "Can't Be Bothered Now."

Sydney Hinton sings her solo, "Someone to Watch Over Me."

The pit works on getting some practice in before opening night.

Why do you think students should get involved in the Spring Musical?

Jordan Bowden, Senior

"Being involved with the musical helps you express yourself in a creative way, while also getting to meet other people who enjoy the same thing."

Tyler Peterson, Junior

"You seem to get a sense of community, and you make friends who have a common interest in your activities inside and outside of school. Plus, it looks good on college applications, so that's a bonus!"

Brittany Anderson, Junior

"Students should get involved in the spring musical because it allows you to gain confidence in yourself, use your talents, and learn to work together to appreciate and produce art."

Graham Woods, Junior

"It's a really good experience and a good way to meet new people."

Making Memories

Matters Here

Rock Island Journalism Staff 2013-2014

Kate Dix
Senior
"For the past two years, Journalism has given me a better appreciation for my school and classmates, and also made me more responsible and creative. I love Journalism because Miers gives the class food. It's also a great outlet for my love of photography and writing. But mostly, the food."

Molly Eirinberg
Senior
"We get to contribute to the yearbook, and meet a ton of new people! I like Journalism because I like photography, so I enjoyed taking pictures at a lot of the sporting events!"

Kyrstin Plohr
Senior
"Ever since I was little, I've been coloring and drawing my own papers. Being creative is what I like to do, and Journalism was an escape from school that allowed me to channel that."

Jasmine Babers
Senior
"I love the fact that I can be creative in this class. I feel like I'm gaining valuable skills that I can use later on in my work. I love the other students in this class, and I love the teacher!"

LaCresha Linton
Senior
"Journalism has positively impacted me because it made me get out of my shell more. I like Journalism because it works with the yearbook, and you get to meet new people."

Alicia Murphy
Junior
"Journalism has taught me time management, and a way to be creative. My favorite part about the class is all the jokes we make. I got to learn more about the people and the activities at our school."

Lauren Simmer
Junior
"I get to learn more about Rocky, and get more behind the scenes. Journalism has allowed me to get out of my comfort zone. Now, I am getting away from my shyness."

Definitely considered one of the more fun classes at Rocky, Journalism is a creative way to get involved and directly affect what is remembered throughout the year. During the class, students have the opportunity to work on everything associated with the yearbook, including deciding what is covered. The ability to have an important say in what is in the yearbook and what it looks like is a major draw for students, especially those who want to leave their mark. Hannah Rodriguez, a junior editor, decided to take the class after talking to Ms. Miers and learning that she would get the chance to work on the yearbook. "I would highly recommend taking the class, especially if you are creative and want to get involved in Rocky activities," Rodriguez shared. Focused on conducting interviews and responsibilities modern day journalists have, Journalism also discusses proper journalist etiquette, and the various career paths in today's media. Jasmine Babers, a senior editor, is on the verge of deciding her future. "I would consider a career as a journalist, yes. However, print journalism is not for me, maybe something in broadcasting, chasing and getting stories, not so much," Babers explained. Working on the newspaper and yearbook is great for expanding knowledge and learning new skills whether a student is considering a career in journalism or not. "I want my students to gain new experiences, and learn how to talk and interact with people," the fifth year Journalism teacher Ms. Miers says. Students not only gain valuable social skills, but enhance the skills they already have in Journalism. As Ms. Miers explains, "Editors have qualities like being hardworking and creative," which definitely comes in handy when designing a publication. "It's fun to have a creative outlet everyday, learning new things about the system to try and make the spread look interesting and nice," junior editor Hannah says. Journalism is a great class to consider to broaden career options, as well as be able to creatively get involved at Rocky. The skills you develop in this class will carry far beyond your years at Rock Island High School, and your hard work will live on for generations to come. "The best part of Journalism is having creative freedom, and getting to spend time with some really amazing people," senior editor Jasmine says. "I'll miss this class the most."

2013-2014 Editing Staff

Jordan Bowden
Senior
"It's a class where you are welcome to express your creativity."

Stasi Jones
Senior
"Journalism has allowed me to discover more about myself and my classmates. I really love Journalism because getting pictures, doing interviews, and finishing pages makes me feel like I am creating memories for people to have forever to look back on."

Mackenzie Leatherman
Senior
"I have been excited to be in Journalism since sophomore year, when an editor did a profile on me. It gives me freedom to write about what I want, and explore and enjoy our diverse school."

Katie McClellan &
Alyssa Meincke
Juniors
"Journalism impacted me by making me feel more involved with the school, and it made me feel more responsible, and I love putting the book together! I love being able to meet new people from the yearbook. It gives me more opportunity to get to know my school and show school spirit."

Hannah Rodriguez
Junior
"Being able to leave my mark on the school and that my work is permanent is really exciting! The amazing people I met, and time to be creative made this an awesome experience."

Meghan Wells
Junior
"I like Journalism because it brings out my creative side and gives me a different way to write."

Sammy Carr
Senior
"I love Journalism because I get to know people through interviews. It's fun to discover the opinions and thoughts from people you've gone to school with. Journalism helped me think outside the box. It really brought out the creative side of me."

Spanish Club

Where INVOLVEMENT Matters Here

Rocky's Spanish Club has long enjoyed a tradition of great student involvement. With the guidance of the Spanish Club advisor, Mrs. Regan, the club has continued this tradition, and started to participate in more activities with the other foreign language clubs, the French Club and German Club.

Mrs. Regan explained that among the club's many activities, this year, the group had a "dinner and a movie at Happy Joe's and watched the movie '42.' We had a welcome back picnic and have had a get together with the French and German Clubs for a Halloween party. We also walked in the Homecoming Parade."

Spanish Club's leaders include President Alex Lavery, Vice Presidents Maddy Perry and Shamia Clark, Secretary Ethan Hong, and Treasurer Hannah Price.

Mrs. Regan enjoys her time helping with the group, and believes the students can benefit from being a part of the club. She states, "Spanish Club does a variety of activities with a diverse group of students. Plus, there is usually food!"

Upper Right: Spanish Club members have fun at a Friday meeting.
Middle Right: The members of Spanish Club enjoy a picnic.
Above Right: Junior members of the Spanish Club goof around during a meeting.
Above Left: Mrs. Regan invites students to join the club.

Getting Involved at the Rock

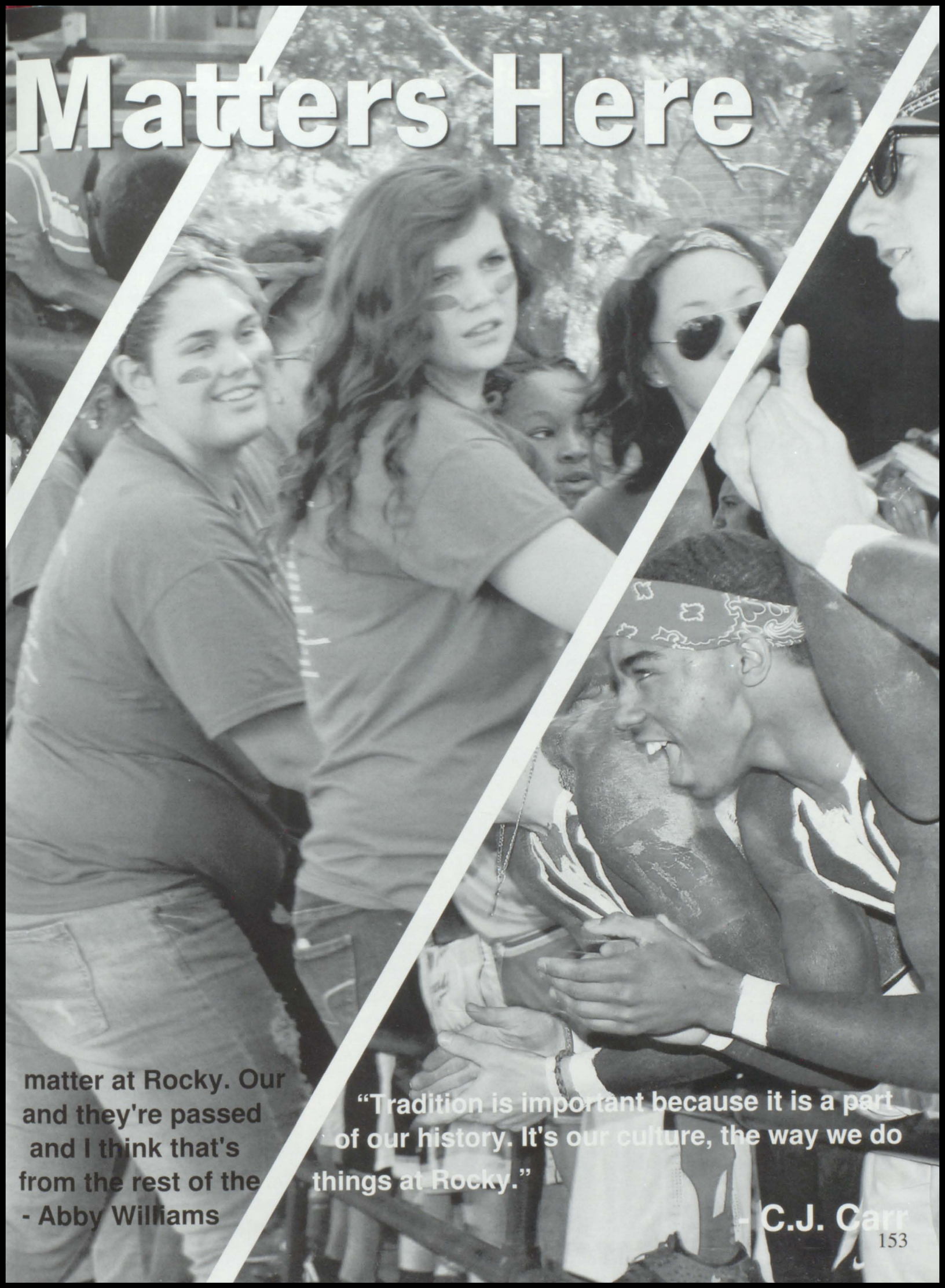
Tradition

"I love Rocky tradition. What we do is really what makes Rocky, 'Rocky.' They say, 'Tradition never dies,' and I think we have kept it alive."
- Quineesha Steele

"Tradition matters the most. We waited a long four years to get here. Without tradition, we wouldn't have been able to get so far. Tradition, to me, is getting out of school, getting ready, and heading to every football and basketball game. It's not just a sport, it's our tradition."
- Jeff Campbell

"We make tradition traditions are unique down from year to year, why Rocky stands out schools."

Matters Here



matter at Rocky. Our
and they're passed
and I think that's
from the rest of the
- Abby Williams

"Tradition is important because it is a part of our history. It's our culture, the way we do things at Rocky."

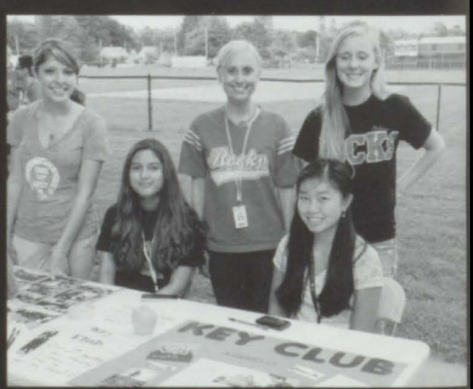
- C.J. Carr

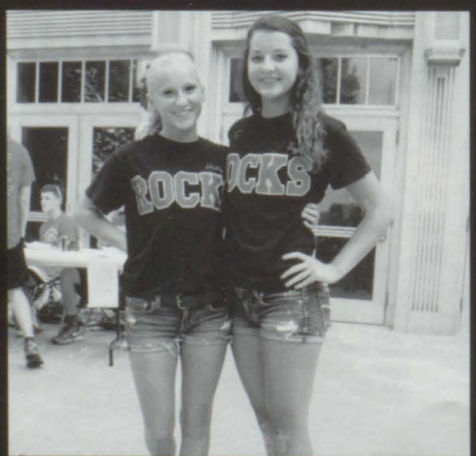
Rallying Together Matters Here

Above: Seniors Austin Simmer, Abbi Wieland, Cole Neder, Izzi Wieland, and Phil Witmer enjoy their last Rally at the Rock.
Below: The Seniors try to win the tug of war but experienced an unprecedented loss to the Juniors.

Left: Seniors George Roderick and Trey Sigel help lead the festivities.
Below: One tradition the school upholds is having the Marching Band play the school songs.
Middle: Marcellus Angel encourages his fellow Rocks to join the Drama Club.

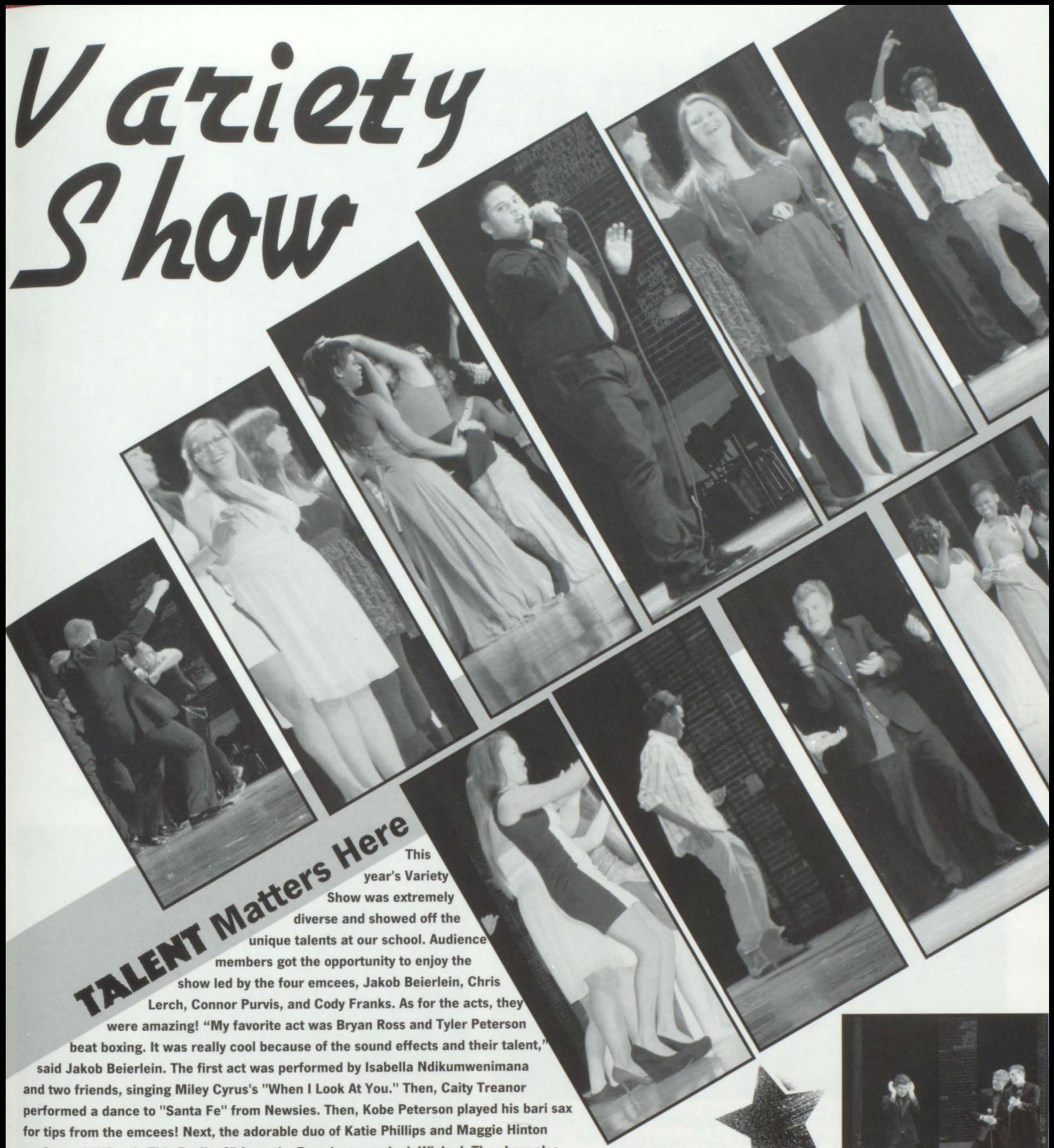
Above: Students participate in the water balloon toss at Rally at the Rock.
Center: Eli Meek-Bobb, of the Pride of Rock Island Drumline, stands ready to play the Rocky Fight Song.





Above: The Key Club gets students excited for new service projects happening this year.
Middle: Aliyah Kowalik, Bailey VanDerGinst, and Felicia Contreras continue the tradition of going to the Rally at the Rock one last time.
Left: Cheerleaders, Shelby Hodge and Taylor Greko get everyone ready for the Red and Gold Game.

Variety Show

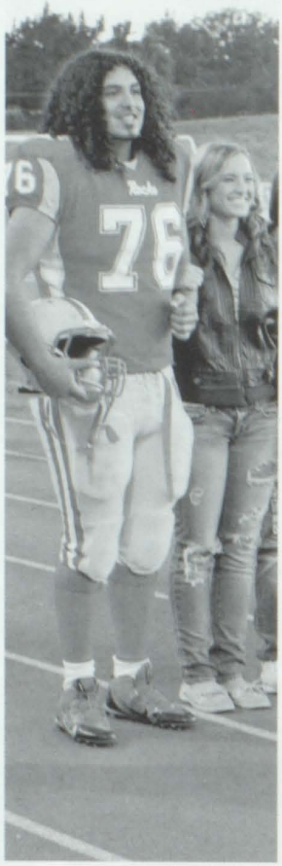


TALENT Matters Here

This year's Variety Show was extremely diverse and showed off the unique talents at our school. Audience members got the opportunity to enjoy the show led by the four emcees, Jakob Beierlein, Chris Lerch, Connor Purvis, and Cody Franks. As for the acts, they were amazing! "My favorite act was Bryan Ross and Tyler Peterson beat boxing. It was really cool because of the sound effects and their talent," said Jakob Beierlein. The first act was performed by Isabella Ndikumwenimana and two friends, singing Miley Cyrus's "When I Look At You." Then, Caity Treanor performed a dance to "Santa Fe" from Newsies. Then, Kobe Peterson played his bari sax for tips from the emcees! Next, the adorable duo of Katie Phillips and Maggie Hinton performed "What Is This Feeling?" from the Broadway musical, Wicked. The show also featured Mikhayla Hughes-Shaw playing a show-stopping rendition of "Adorn" by Miguel on her violin. Alicia Freiburg danced with Marcellus Angel to Michael Jackson's "Smooth Criminal." Then, Victoria Eastman showed off her flag-twirling skills with a number she choreographed herself! The audience also enjoyed Jordan Bowden singing Carrie Underwood's song, "Jesus Take The Wheel." Dennicia Hickman got a standing ovation for "If I Ain't Got You." Okito Olenga's rendition of "Hero" was also a crowd favorite. The show also featured Andrea Hergert's impressive hula-hooping skills. Hailey Jungjohahn sang "All Of Me" by John Legend. Following that act was the the closing number of Antonio Donaldson singing "Wake Me Up." "My favorite part was coming out on stage with all of the other acts during Antonio's song at the end," said cast member Alicia Freiburg. The end of the act was a great way to bring the audience and cast together, and close an awesome Variety Show!

Royalty Matters Here

Jasmine Babers
and
Marcus Jackson



Kyrstin Plohr
and
Erinnd Blanco

Hailey Feldhahn
and
Quinton Holmes

Helena Smiley
and
Keenan Shorter

Ashley Ayala
and
Jacob Sigler

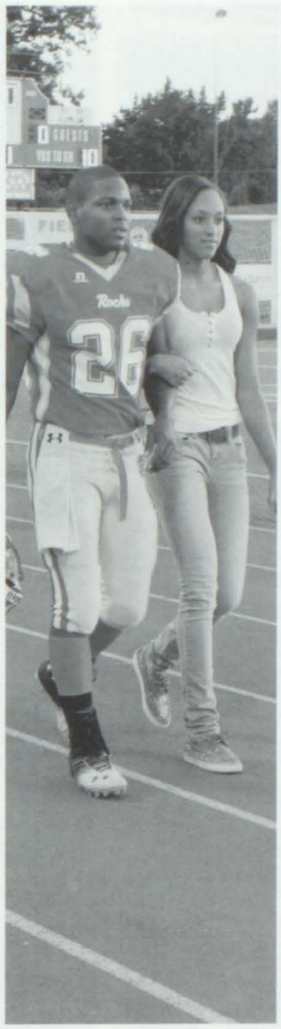
Austin Simmer, Grant Myers, DayQwon Jones, Keenan Shorter, C.J. Carr, and Trey Sigel

Prince and Princess:
Trey Sigel and Adriana Blanco

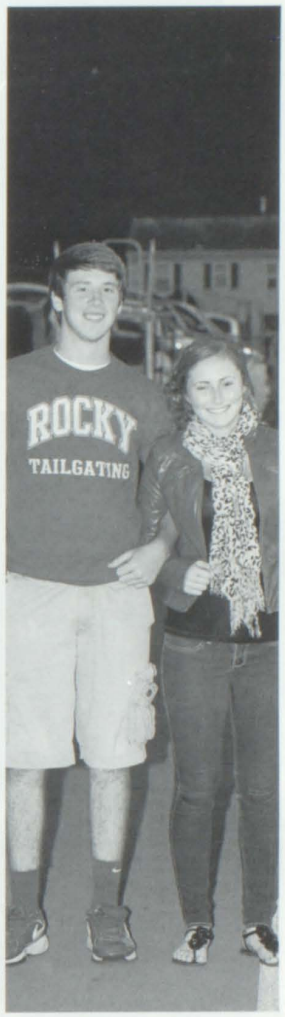
Sammy Carr
and
Grant Myers

Carlee Hoover
and
C.J. Carr

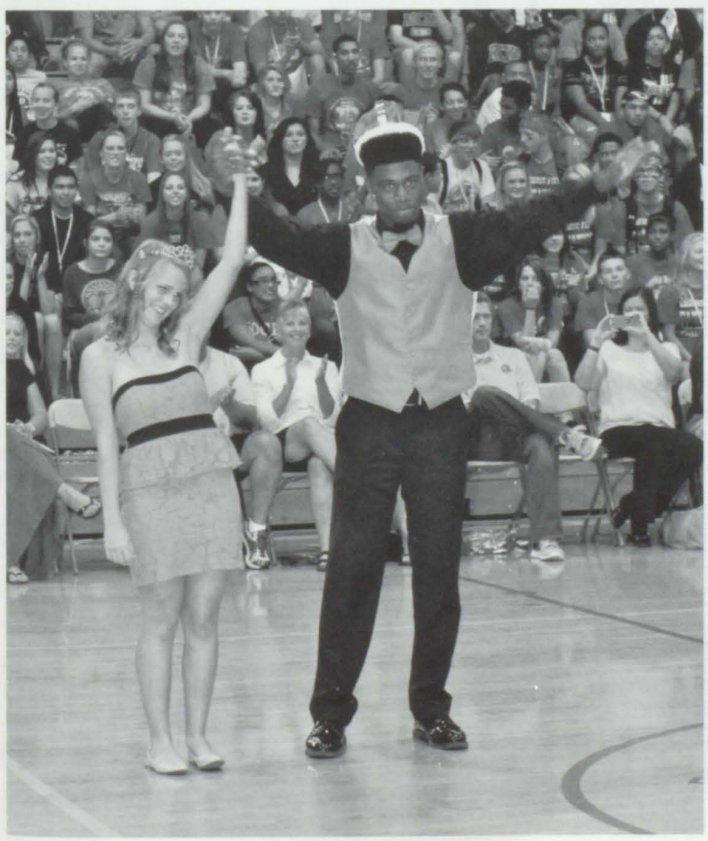
Abbi Wieland
and
Austin Simmer

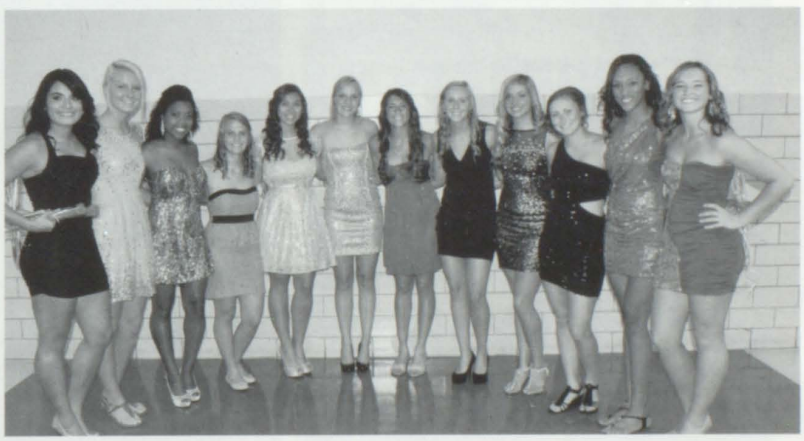


Ashlee Moore
and
Brandon Richardson



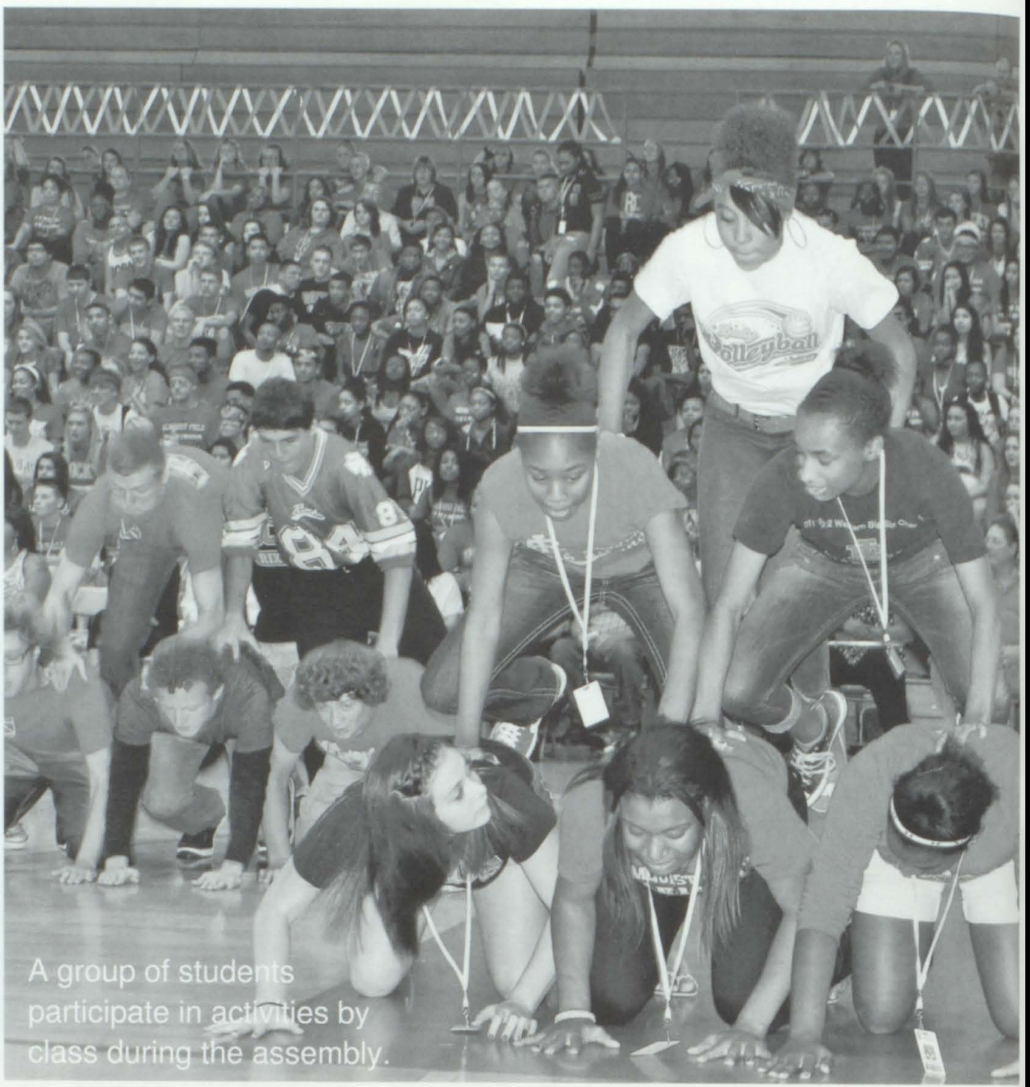
Amanda Manary
and
Alex Hardcastle





Adriana Blanco, Hailey Feldhahn, Jasmine Babers, Claire Bacon, Ashley Ayala, Abbi Wieland, Sammy Carr, Helena Smiley, Carlee Hoover, Amanda Manary, Ashlee Moore, and Kyrstin Plohr

King and Queen:
DayQwon Jones and Claire Bacon



A group of students participate in activities by class during the assembly.

Q&A

Q What was it like to be in the assembly?

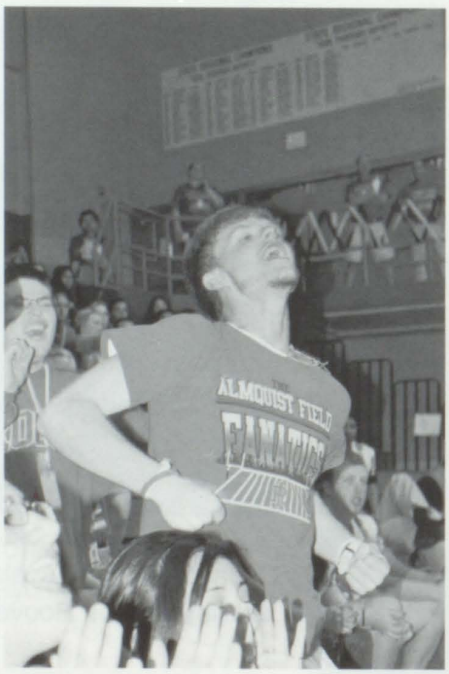
A "It was really exciting to be part of something for the school!"

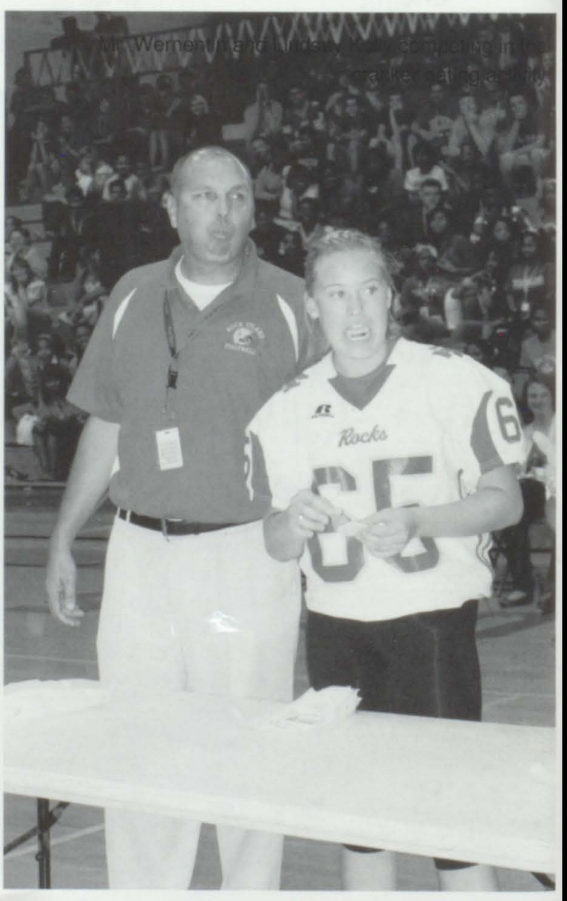
Lauren Simmer

Q What is it like to cheer in front of the students at Rocky?

A "It's very exciting! My adrenaline starts to pump, and the students get excited, which helps get me more excited!"

Dariyn Perez





Far Right: During the Homecoming Assembly, Mr. Wernentin and Lindsey Kelley participate in the competitions. **Right**: Jake Walker shows his excitement during the assembly.

celebrating

Matters Here

Below: Homecoming Prince Trey Sigel and Princess Adriana Blanco wave and smile for the camera.

Below: Homecoming King, DayQwon Jones and Queen Claire Bacon proudly ride through the parade.

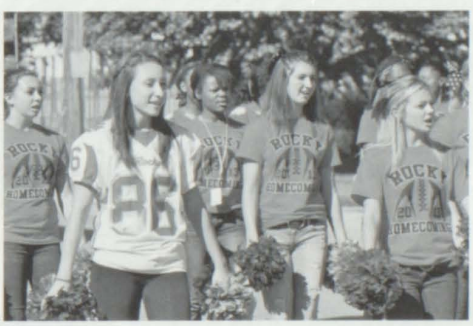
Q&A

Q What was it like riding in the Homecoming Parade?

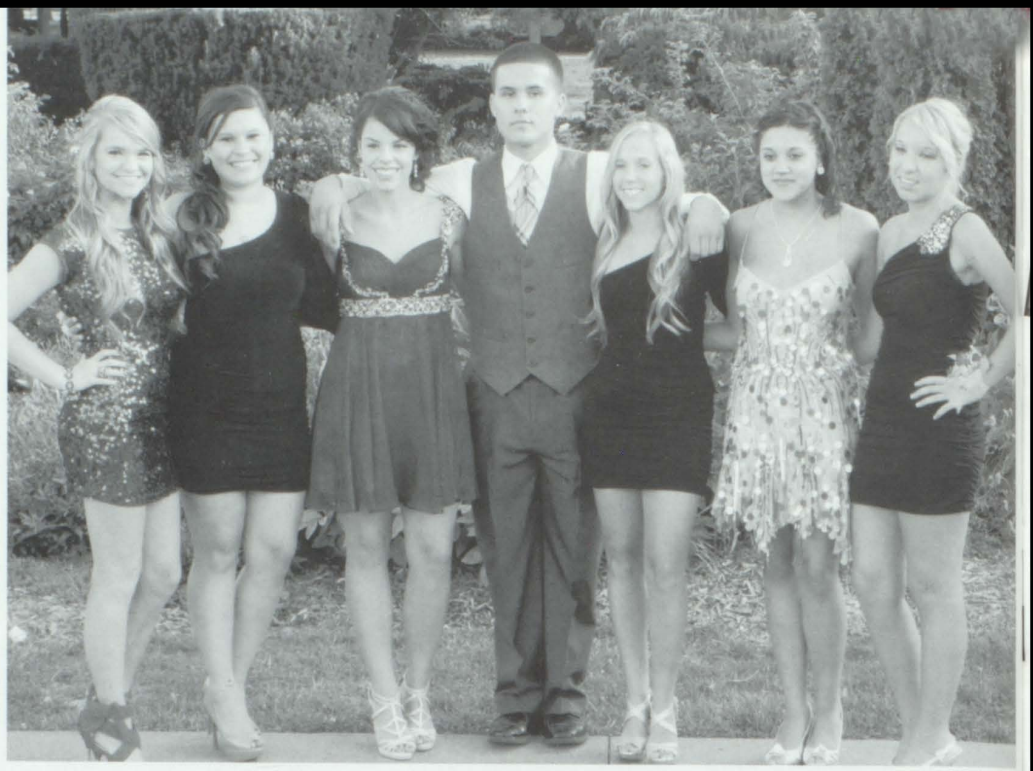
A "I love candy, so obviously the parade was awesome! But truly, it was a fun experience seeing all the kids support Rock Island High School, the kids that will some day participate in the parade themselves. I remember being the screaming kid, and I can't believe I'm now a senior, graduating from this school that has offered me so many experiences, and allowed me to meet so many fun people."

- Abbi Wieland

Left: The ROTC leads the parade by carrying the American flag.
Above: The Varsity Football Team rides through the parade on the trolley bus.



Top: The Girls' Swim Team smiles through the parade.
Above: The Cheerleading Squad performs their cheers throughout the parade route, energizing the crowd.
Left: The Marching Band proudly plays their instruments for the crowd.
Below: The Girls Swim Team smiles through the parade.



Above: Katie McClellan, Adriana Cantu, Abigail Ford, John McNeal, Courtney Smith, Payton Jackson, and Colleen Stablein all pose together.
Below Left: Jordan Sholl, Lindsey Kelley, Dariyn Perez, and Lauren Simmer pose before the dance.
Below Right: Austin Simmer and Justin Whitcomb celebrate Homecoming "Camo" style.

Top: Cole Neder and Isabella Kongkousonh took their Homecoming pictures in a garden, a popular spot.
Above: Breana Biswell adds the finishing touch to Gauge Brown's suit with a boutonnière.

Creativity Matters Here

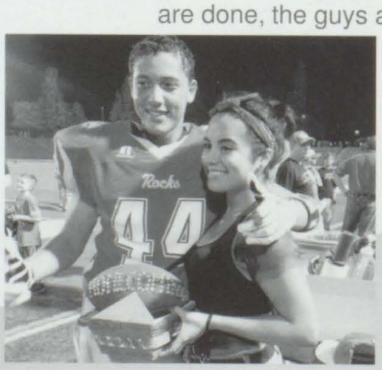
Girls always love being asked to Homecoming, and the guys always have the perfect idea on how to ask a girl to the Homecoming Dance. Popular ideas this year included big signs that read, "Homecoming?" and asking at sporting events. There's also the classic get a rose in each class with a note that asks the question, "Will you go to Homecoming with me?" Or, some guys like to be really sweet, and ask with a cake.

When the night finally arrives, girls spend hours getting dressed up in the best dresses, with the perfect shoes, and insuring their makeup is flawless. When all the preparations are done, the guys and girls all dance the night away.

How did you get asked?

Rocky students show off their creativity in asking their dates to Homecoming.

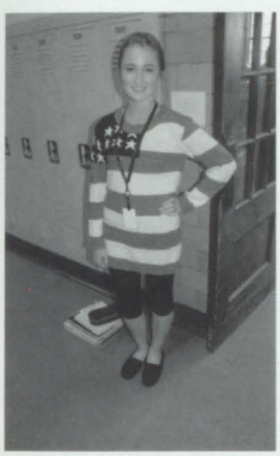
At the football game, seniors, Trevor Staes and Jake Walker, go all out on their last chance to ask Emma Schneekloth and Haley Dorman to the dance.



Tylynn Hickman uses his resources, football, to ask Adriana Blanco, to her senior Homecoming.

Chris Castenada asks Ana Rodemeyer at her tennis practice. It was a great idea to ask after a practice.

'Merica



Monday

Retro

Tuesday

CAMO

Wednesday

Class Color

Thursday

Red & Gold

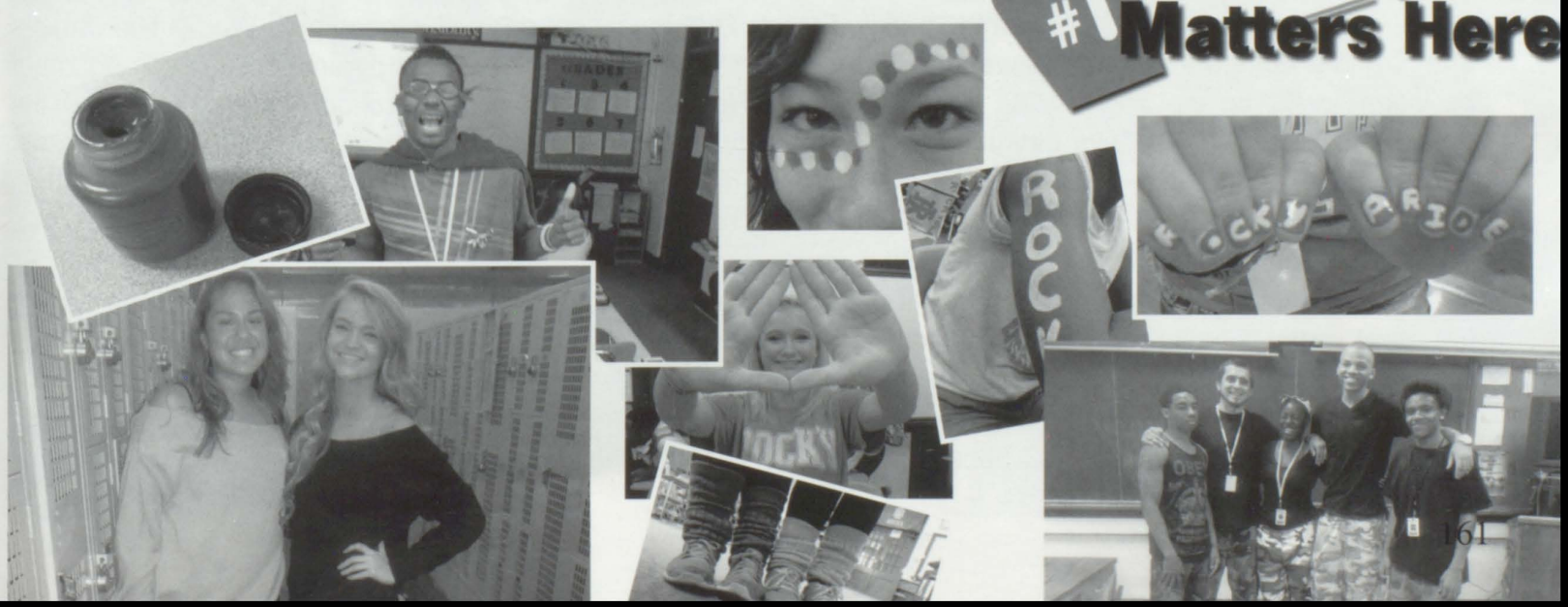
Friday

SPIRIT

GO TEAM!

#1

Matters Here



Matters Here

Rocky is seen as a huge family, a united front. That is, except during Homecoming Week. The Juniors and Seniors compete the whole week in mummy wraps, eating competitions, pyramid building, and other activities, including the Tug-of-War. Tug-of-War is a Homecoming Week after school tradition that pins the Junior girls against the Senior girls in a battle of strength. "I liked being able to work together with the Junior girls," Katie McClellan said. The Seniors won the Tug-of-War 3-0 this year, bouncing back from their loss as Juniors the year before. "It was like a redemption. Even though the girls we originally competed with were gone, we has something to prove," Senior Stasi Jones said.

The competition was tough. The first tug went back and forth before the Seniors pulled out the win. "It felt great winning because I think the Juniors thought they already had us beat because they won at Rally," Senior De'Aysha Walker stated. After the first round's lengthy battle, the Seniors pulled together, and quickly won the final two rounds. "Winning the Tug-of-War senior year is not as big as winning Conference or anything, but it matters to the Class of 2014 because it's adding onto the legacy we will eventually leave behind," Senior Kyrstin Plohr said.

Top: Seniors Hannah Ohlsen, Isabella Naab, Allyson Boyle, and Juli Jespersen pose before the Tug of War. All are wearing this year's Senior Tug of War shirt designed by Kyrstin Plohr.

Middle: Juniors attempt to tug the Seniors over the line outside on the East Lawn.

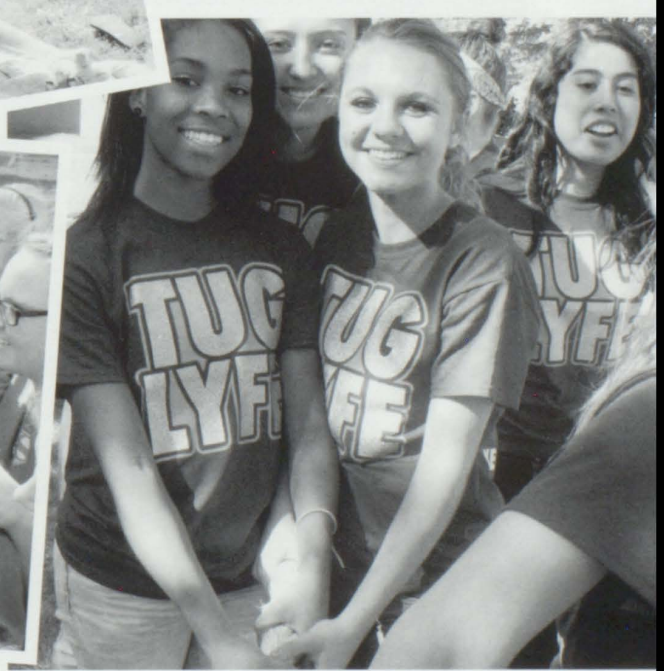
Bottom: Seniors Felicia Contreras, Jacklyn Young, Kaitlyn Young, Bailey VanDerGinst, and Stasi Jones goof around after winning the Tug of War.

Far Left: The Juniors tug against the Seniors, decked out in their purple class t-shirts, designed by Taryn VanEarwage and Morgan Twing.

Inset: Adriana Blanco gets ready to tug against the Juniors. She led the charge for the Senior side of the rope.

Below: The Seniors pose for a victory picture, after beating the Juniors 2-0.

Bottom: Juniors Shauntrice Gamble and Taylor Neyens pose before the Tug-of-War.



Competition Matters Here

Powder Puff 2013

Rallying For Charity

In the game of football, you have two options: defeat, or be defeated. For the Junior and Senior girls at Rock Island High School, this question came into play, on a cold October afternoon, when they battled it out at Almquist Stadium for the annual Powderpuff game. The Juniors walked out onto the field sporting pink t-shirts to meet their fierce competitors, the Senior girls, decked out in teal. Both teams had been preparing for the game for weeks.

With the help of their football playing coaches, the girls had to coordinate mostly everything on their own. "There was a lot of planning that was involved in getting the Seniors to the field. We had multiple practices, and we had to do t-shirt orders, and collect money, and things like that, so it was definitely a process, but it was worth it to be able to contribute to the Hunger Drive," Senior Jasmine Babers explains.

The game ran for two halves, with the Juniors having the first position. Towards the end of the first half, after some rough plays, senior, Mystique Thompson finally made it into the end zone to end the first half with a score of 6-0. Early in the second half, the Juniors rallied together to get their first touchdown of the night, courtesy of Mariah Anderson. "Mariah was definitely a team leader. She was a motivation to everyone," Sadie Barrios stated about her fellow teammate. That touchdown set a fire under the Juniors, as they fought to keep the Seniors out of the end zone. The score was tied with 2 minutes left on the clock, and the Juniors had the ball. With a "sneak-attack" play catching the Seniors off guard, junior Alayna Owens was able to run the ball in for the final touchdown. "It really felt great to win. At first, I didn't have much confidence. Then, I saw how great we Juniors were doing, and I was proud of all of us for doing our best, and giving our all," Sadie says, reflecting on her moment of victory.

As the Juniors celebrated their win, across the field, you could see the Seniors joking and laughing all the same. "It wasn't a loss for us. We played. We had fun. We did something good for charity, and it was just a really good time," Jasmine says, looking back on the game. All the proceeds from ticket sales and player registration went towards the school's hunger drive. "I decided to participate because I love football, and I wanted to know how it was to play for real. Also, I was told the money was for charity, and wanted to help out," Sadie comments.

It was a great Powderpuff game, without a doubt. In football, you have two options: defeat or be defeated, and although the scoreboard suggests that the Seniors were defeated, really, the one who lost was hunger.

SCOREBOARD

		Half
Seniors:	Mystique Thompson	1st
Juniors:	Mariah Anderson	2nd
Juniors:	Alayna Owens	2nd

Juniors WIN!! 12-6

Facing off for Victory

Star player on the Juniors' team, Mariah Anderson, was a key asset to the team's win. Mariah is a track runner, and used her speed to her advantage. Mariah ran the ball for the touchdown at the beginning of the first half to tie the game.

Morgan Twing was one of the stand out players on Sunday. She utilized her speed and basketball skills to weave her way on the field. Morgan impressed the crowd with some of her amazing catches, sometimes with many defenders around her, and other catches all on her own.

Mystique Thompson was the play maker for the Seniors. She scored the only touchdown for her team late in the first half to put her team in the lead. Mystique utilized her speed to out run the competition, and help get first downs.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY MATTERS HERE

How would you describe cultural diversity?

"Culture is the way people lived, such as language, food, dress, and what they believed. I volunteer and translate in the community, like in the hospital and any other place."

Van N. Par

What is the most important holiday of your culture?

"Dia de los muertos is the most important holiday to remember the dead family in the community, and we still celebrated in U.S."

Karen Costilla

Who is considered the most respected in your culture?

"The elder person is the most respected because they've been there for long time. They know more, and are wiser. I say to my other friend, who grew up in U.S, to respect the oldest."

Elizabeth Kasimu

What is the most important meal of the day?

"Dashain and Tihar is the meal of the Day for Nepalis. We celebrated in the U.S. We invited some American friends, and tell them, 'These are our tradition days.' Everyone brought their foods, and shared in the community."

Laxmi Gurung

How do you speak with your family if you don't speak the languages?

"It is a shame to forget our own language. It helps the community to communicate with the one who doesn't speak English. I tell the ones who grow up in U.S. not to forget our own language."

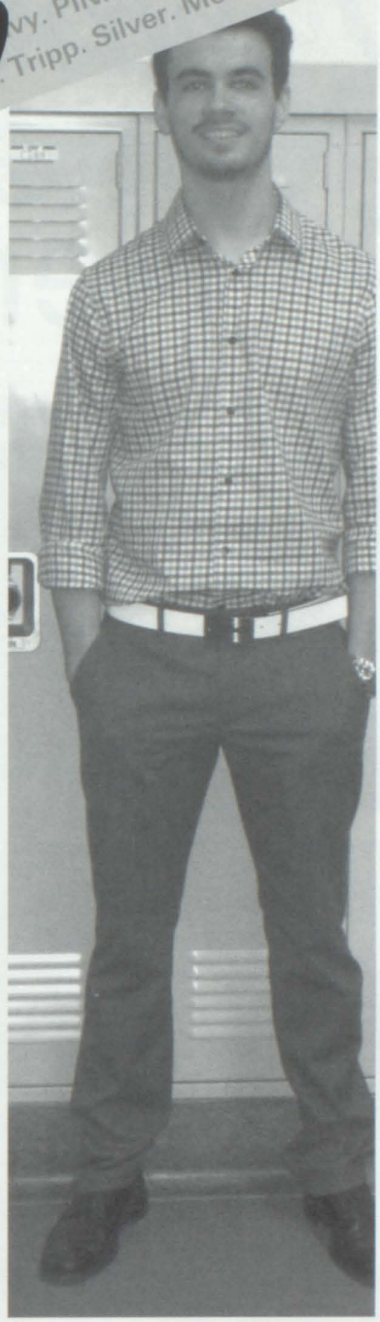
Hsee Paw

Fashion

"I would describe my style as fun, and maybe a little dressy sometimes! I usually just wear whatever I feel like wearing that day. My fashion is inspired by outfits I see on Instagram, Pinterest, magazines, as well as some of my friends."
- Sydney Taylor

"I base most of my style off of the fashions of the 1940's and 50's. I love watching old movies with actresses like Betty Grable, Lauren Bacall, and Marilyn Monroe, and trying to mimic their hairstyles and outfits."
- Faith Northcutt

"I like to dress very girly. I choose timeless pieces, and find inspiration from fashion icons like Kate Middleton, Blair Waldorf, and Michelle Obama. My motto for my style is 'When you dress better, you do better.'"
- Mackenzie Leatherman

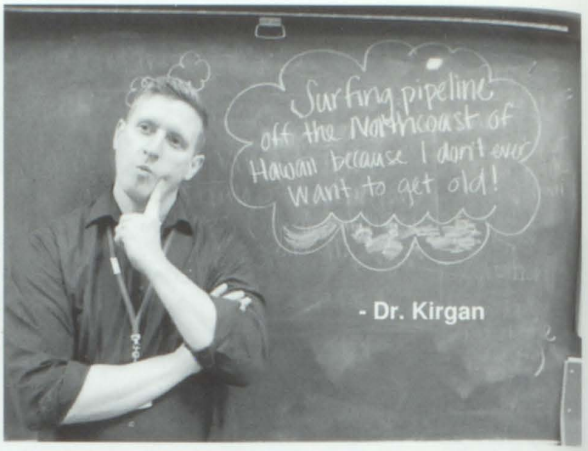


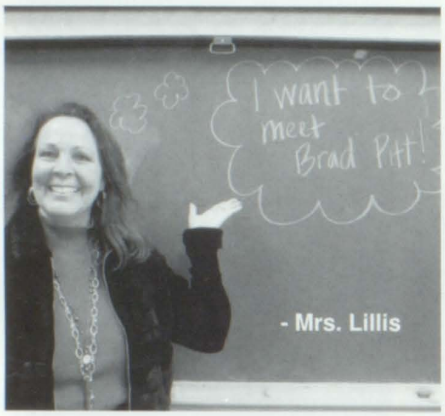
"Clothes and manners do not make the man, but when he is made, they greatly improve his appearance. Mariano Di Vaio's style really inspires me."
- Logan Enstrom

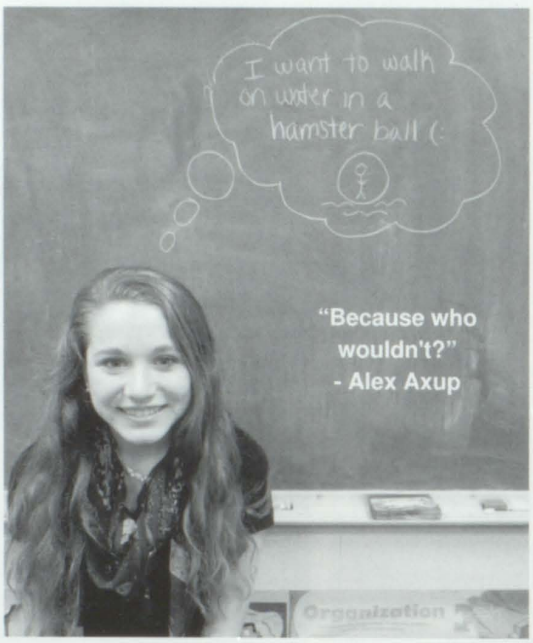
Matters Here

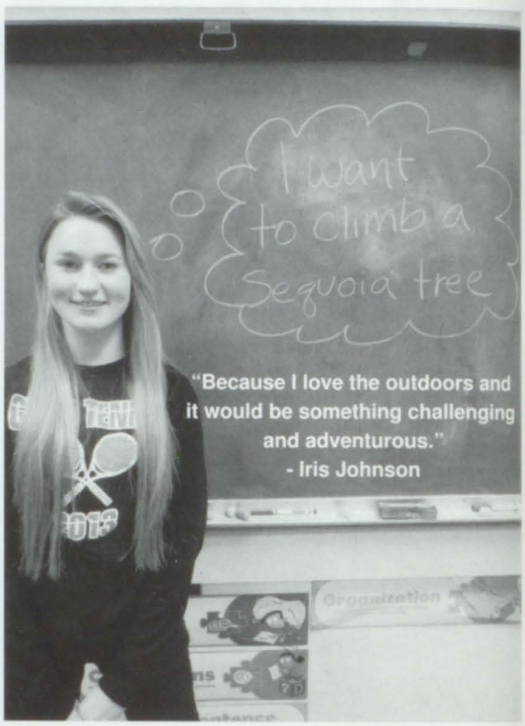
Dreams Matter Here

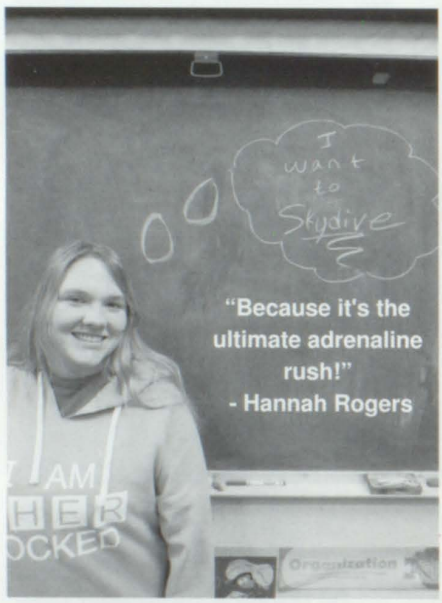
Rocky students and staff share the #1 items on their bucket lists!

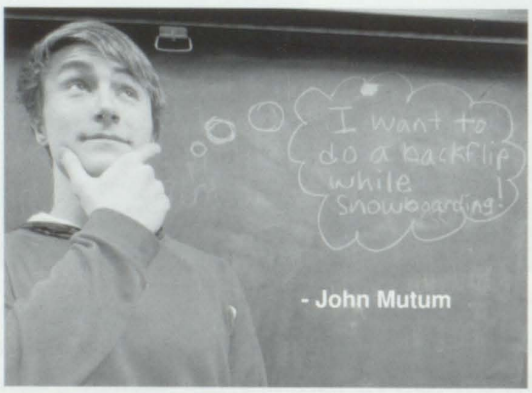


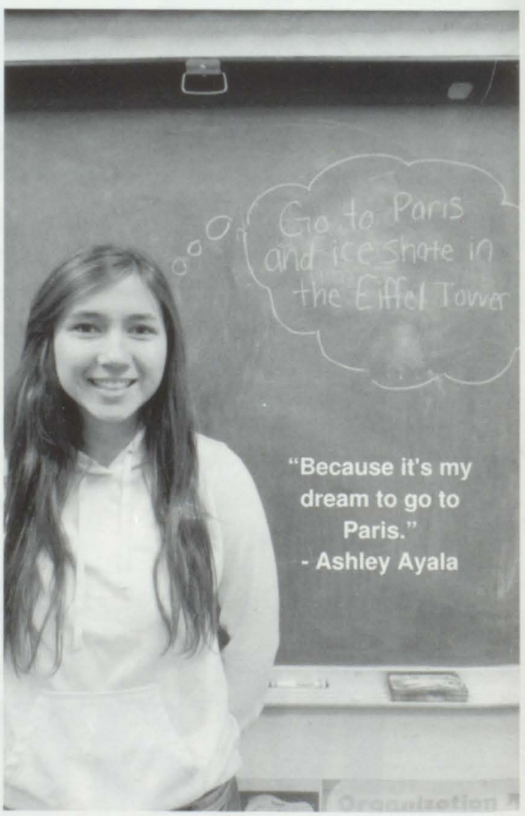


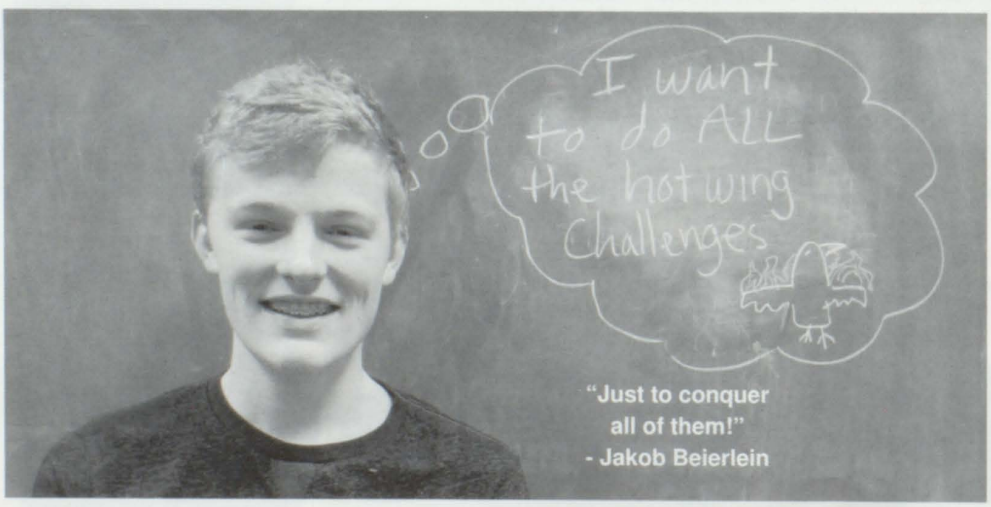










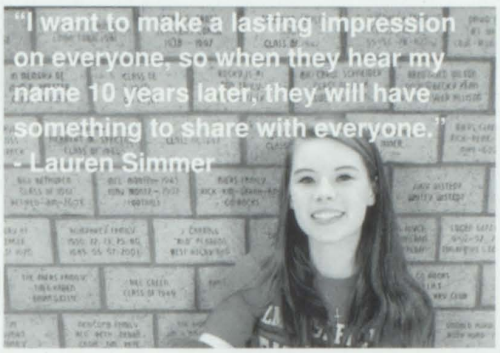


Rocky Bucket List

"Finish out the year with all A's."
- Lexi Bragg

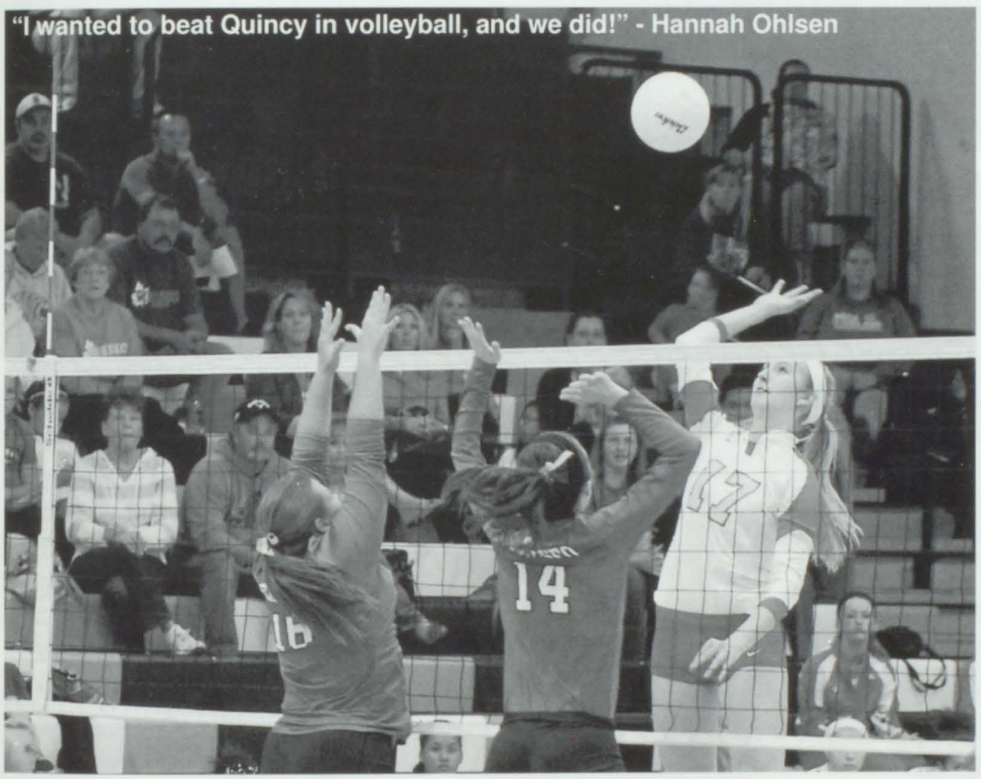
"Pay for a random student's meal."
- Nick Niles

"Make a change for the better."
- Edgar Brown

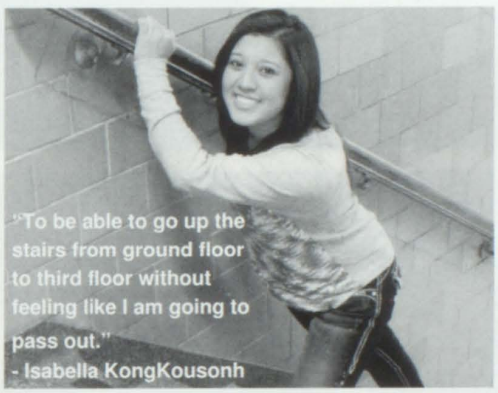


"I want to make a lasting impression on everyone, so when they hear my name 10 years later, they will have something to share with everyone."
- Lauren Simmer

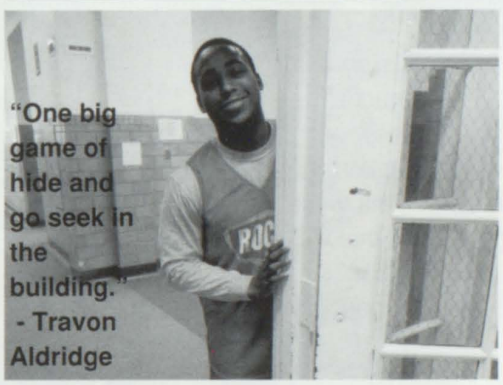
Before I graduate from Rocky, I want to



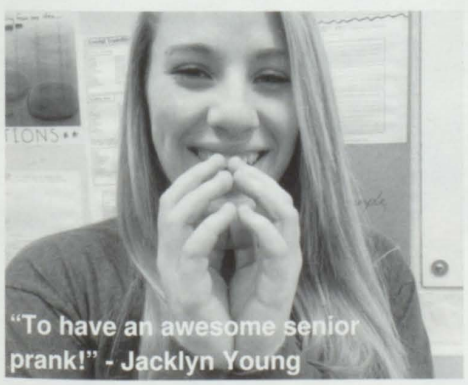
"I wanted to beat Quincy in volleyball, and we did!" - Hannah Ohlsen



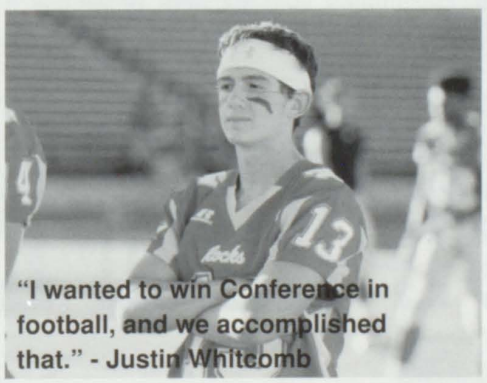
"To be able to go up the stairs from ground floor to third floor without feeling like I am going to pass out."
- Isabella KongKousonh



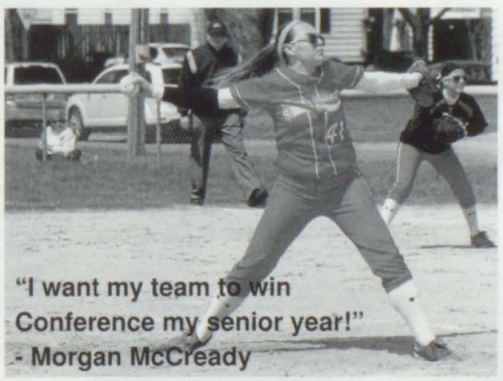
"One big game of hide and go seek in the building."
- Travon Aldridge



"To have an awesome senior prank!" - Jacklyn Young



"I wanted to win Conference in football, and we accomplished that." - Justin Whitcomb



"I want my team to win Conference my senior year!"
- Morgan McCready

"School spirit matters because it's how we show our love and support for the school, but most importantly, that we have pRIde."
- Adriana Blanco

"School spirit means loving your school, including everything and everyone in it."
- Devon Wagener

"School spirit matters to me because it can make or break a bond, bonds with your classmates, your teachers, or team. We need bonds to help our school function successfully."
- Kyrstin Plohr

"School spirit matters to me because it shows pride, and that you care about school, and what it does"
- Trevor Staes

"School spirit matters to me because I have a lot of pride in Rock Island, and our teams, and we have to represent that in our confidence!"
- Kirsten Tauke

SPIRIT MATTERS HERE

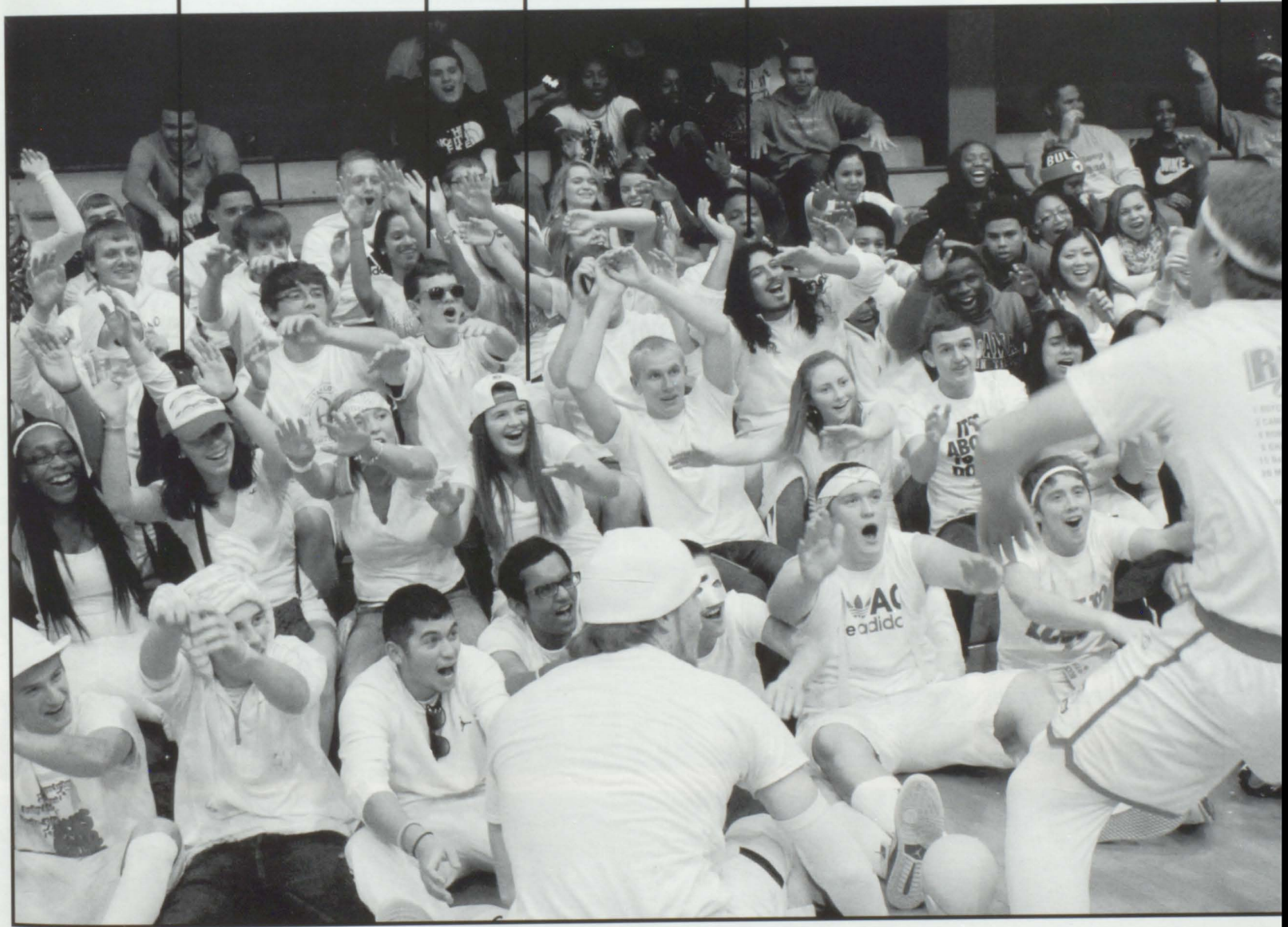
"School spirit matters to me because I grew up watching everyone cheer for Rocky teams. Now, I'm a senior, and I want to help carry on the tradition."
- Cole Neder

"School spirit matters to me because it brings all of the students together, like a family, giving us a chance to show the true pRIde we have for our school."
- Allyson Boyle

"School spirit is important to me because it helps students commit more. They will want to be more involved in school activities, and also pay attention in class more. School spirit unites the school."
- Michael Peters

"School spirit matters to me because it gives me the chance to show my passion for my school."
- Sidney Laughlin

"School spirit matters to me because it shows how much you care and support your school, and its accomplishments."
- Erinnd Blanco



Showing

"The student section is the one place we all stand together, and cheer for the boys. It matters because it's the most fun part of being a student at Rocky."
- Stasi Jones

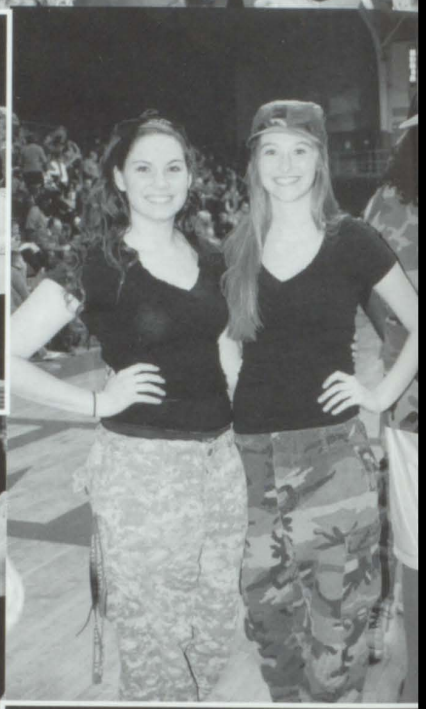
"We get to go out there every Friday night and cheer on our boys just like they would for any of us. It's fun to come together as a school and show our school spirit."
- Taryn VanEarwage

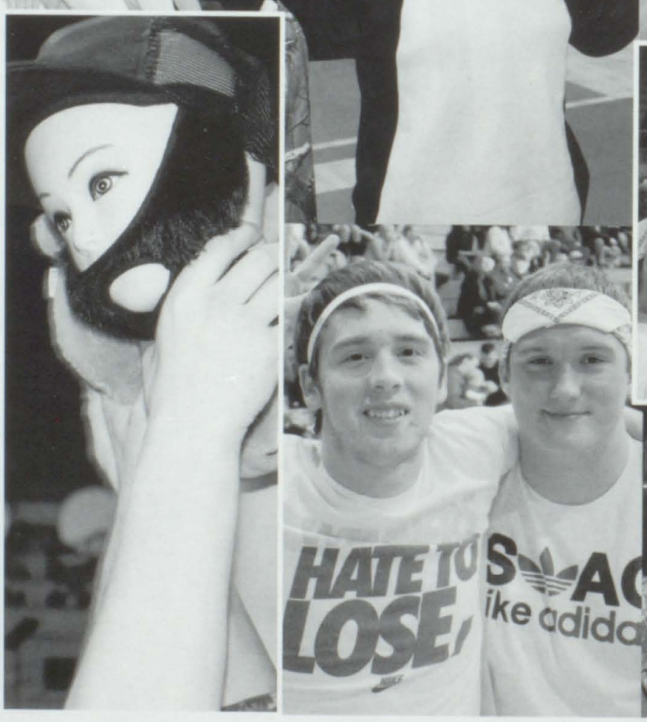
"Showing pride matters because it shows that you care about your school, and you care about our sports, and you want to win."
- Devon Wagener

"For me, it's about tradition. I remember coming to the games when I was a kid and thinking that I was going to play football, and get to dress up for the basketball games."
- Phil Witmer

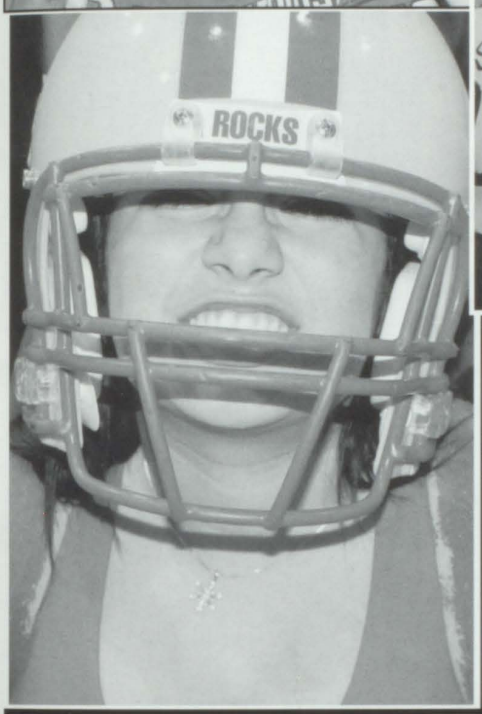
"It matters because it shows that we really love our school sports, and it helps our players play better because we are supporting them."
- Bernice

"Showing pride matters because it means supporting your fellow classmates, and even though we can't physically be out there, we're helping in the stands."
- Jasmine Ragusi





Our pRIde



"Showing pride on Friday nights, wherever we're at, is one of the best things about Rocky. It's tradition. On Friday nights, we become a family. The times we have here are unforgettable."

- Jake Walker

"Dressing up on Friday nights is something special. It's for the students. It is the best way to show support, cheering your heart out for your team is almost as satisfying as playing for them."

- Anthony Kavanaugh

"It lets us show our teams that we're behind them, and it's when personal things don't matter. Our main goal is to cheer them on."

- Corinne McDowell

"Being a Rock Island athlete, and going from playing one season to cheering in the crowd has been awesome. Friday nights during football and basketball season are the best times of the year."

- Quinton Holmes

"No other school shows pride like Rock Island. We become a family, and represent Red and Gold."

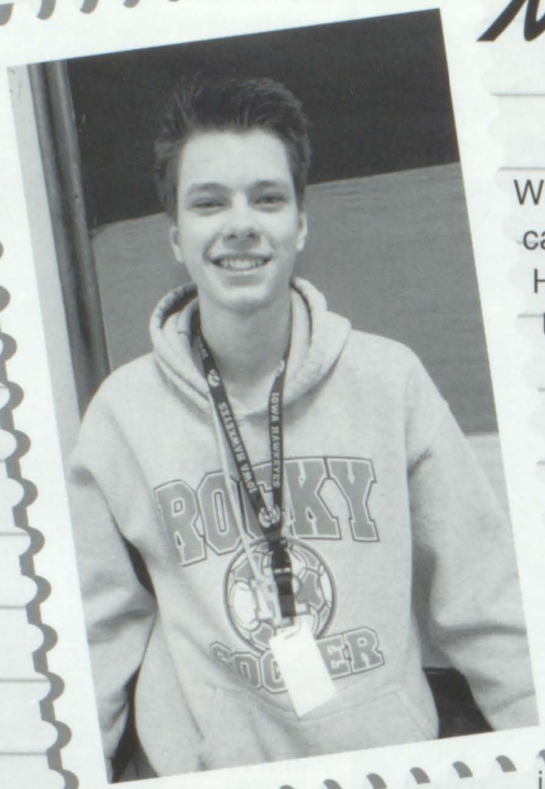
- Sean Wolking

"Showing pride matters because it shows that you can support the team through a win or a loss. Dressing up for games every week makes everyone notice our student section, and makes the games way more fun."

- Alyssa Matejcek

Matters Here

New Experiences Matter Here At Rocky



When Sören Sierck, a foreign exchange student from Germany, first came to Rock Island, let alone the United States, he was very nervous. He had gotten the opportunity to come here through Youth For Understanding (YFU). He left his family, friends, and everything else he knew for the complete 2013-2014 American school year. He has, however, become accustomed to some new things and found some new favorites here in the Quad Cities.

Being involved in soccer in Germany, he easily found his way to the RIHS Varsity Soccer program. He also plans to swim and play tennis here.

Zaira Shaikh's story is a unique one. In 2013, she left her home in Mumbai, India to come study in America. She was the first person from her community to leave, and go to America through a student exchange program after going through a long and difficult application process. She put aside her fear of being disrespected and mistreated for being of Muslim faith for her love of travel, education, and exploration of cultures. Her biggest shock when arriving in America was the size of our houses, our non-spicy food, and the 10.5 hour time difference! During her stay in America, she has experienced the kindness, friendliness, and respect of her host family and fellow students, and now loves America and all that it has to offer. She is especially excited to go to Disney World sometime!

When Zahra Marhoon first came to the United States from her home country of Bahrain, a small island country in Asia, she immediately noticed the differences. In her old school in Bahrain, students didn't get to choose their school schedules, had more intense and strict school days, and had to wear uniforms. Zahra likes school in America because kids can make their own choices and express themselves freely, which is an idea that she wants to bring back to her home country. Being here in America has definitely taught Zahra to be independent, and more responsible for herself. She has settled in comfortably and made friends with other students here at Rocky, who are are very understanding of her and her culture and Muslim faith. When people ask her about her hijab, they do so in a respectful way. "I love Rocky for a lot of reasons," she says. "One of them is diversity, because I know I won't look too different compared to all kinds of people." She is also lucky that school subjects come easy to her since she is used to more intense studies, like math and science, and she is thankful for her teachers here that help her.

Your Interests Matter Here

"Without *interests,* **life** and **everything** in it, *simply* **would be** BORING."

1. Austin Simmer - Hunting: "I like hunting because it's really relaxing, and I can get away from everything for a little while. I also do it for the love of the game."
2. Ms. Miers - Cardigans: "Isn't it a requirement for English teachers to wear cardigans? I'm pretty sure it's a rule."
3. Isaiah Williams - Writing poetry: "Poetry is my passion because it gives me a voice. I can express what I'm saying in an unique way that will catch people's attention, and could ultimately change their lives through spoken word poetry."
4. Nidia Vallalpando - Spreading her culture: "I'm passionate about spreading my Hispanic culture because it is important to not forget my passion, how my people lived, or our customs we lived by."
5. Cole Harris - Cars: "There is a certain sense of fulfillment that comes along with fixing/ upgrading cars. In regards to 'Classic cars,' I enjoy carrying on the family tradition of cleaning them up, and showing them off at any type of car show. Not to mention, I like to go fast."
6. Alicia Murphy - Saving lives: "I'm passionate about my job as a lifeguard because I like to be able to go to work and know that people can be confident enough in me to save their lives if anything happens."
7. Kyrstin Plohr - Dance: "I love the way I feel when I'm on stage. I love being able to express myself through dance."
8. Kiaree Loggins - Cosmotology: "Because I love making people feel better about themselves! You can brighten up someone's day so much by giving them a new look."
9. Yolanda Grandberry-Pugh - Developing Leaders: "Once young people realize there is a leader inside of them, then they become empowered to change the world. And, I want them to be able to take care of me when I'm old."
10. Jane Gray - Medical Field: "I have a passion for the medical field because it has always interested me. I was watching the show "ER" at the age of 5, so I've basically known that the medical field was for me from the start."

Evolution

Growing up a Rock Island Rock

Cora Foster
"Where else would she go? Rock Island is my home. Something huge would have to pull us away, otherwise, this Rock ain't rollin'."
- Mrs. Foster

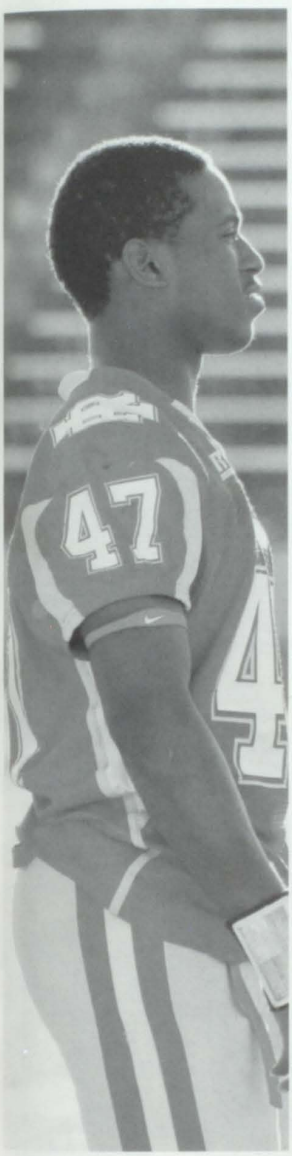
Colton Sigel
"The easy answer is I want him to be a Rock because he wants to be a Rock. Other than that, I respect the loyalty of being a Rock. There is a pride in being a graduate of Rock Island High School, and that also carries over to the athletics here.
The education and experiences he will get as a student and athlete here will help him be successful in life and create memories."
- Coach Sigel

Annika Hong, 9th Grade
"It means unity to me, like our Marching Band shirts. The reason for this is because in junior high, we were the "Eagles" or the "Warriors." We were always competing, and we were rivals, but becoming a Rock puts that behind us. We all go to the same school now, and root for the same team. We are together in this."

Andres Terronez, 10th Grade
"Being a Rock means being a part of something bigger, and remembering those who were before me."

Ethan Hong, 11th Grade
"To me, being a Rock means continuing traditions, upholding records, and most importantly, it means just being a part of one amazing family I have with my school. Rocky has brought many of u together, and I am proud to b a part of that."

OF A Rock



Travon Aldridge, 12th Grade
"To be a Rock means people look up to you, and hold you to a higher standard than other people. To be a Rock is like a reputation in the community. It means everything. It separates you from the rest. Being a Rock means you are part of a very powerful generation before you. Being a Rock means a lot. I don't know how life would be if I was not a Rock."

Mr. Corwin,
1st Year Teacher
"Being a Rock means you have strong pride in your school, community, and city."

Mr. Kennelly
"Much like sediments compact over time to form rocks, my brain has grown stronger with the information I obtained at Rock Island High School. It's like lithification, minus the centuries' long wait. #geology."

Mrs. Thompson
"Being a Rock means to be proud of our school as a graduate, and as a teacher, and to support all of the students and activities they do here by getting involved. Once a Rock, always a Rock."

Rhoda and Robert Lee Humphrey
"Being a Rock means having fun with the children. We get to enjoy the kids, and follow them in everything from sports to music, and activities."

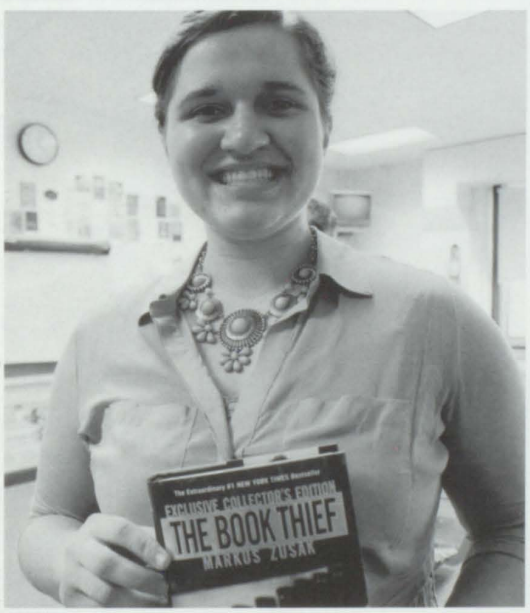
Family Ties Matter Here

"Family ties are precious threads, no matter where we roam. They draw us close to those we love, and pull our hearts towards home."

What fictional character do you look up to? Who is your favorite character in literature? Is there a decent book to movie adaptation? What character do you relate to or want to be friends with?

...what will you read next?

"I love **Deenearys** from *Game of Thrones*, and **Katniss** from **The Hunger Games** because they are COMPLEX, strong, independent women."
- Sophomore Iris Johnson



"Death was my favorite character, as I loved the way he narrated the story, and put a different perspective on a fear that we all have. Also, the books are always better than the movie." - Jenn Michel

"Charlie, from *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, is the character I admire because, being shy, he pushed himself to talk to people completely different than him. Cara, from *Burned*, is my favorite character, though, because she's willing to risk everything to be her true self." - Sara Solis

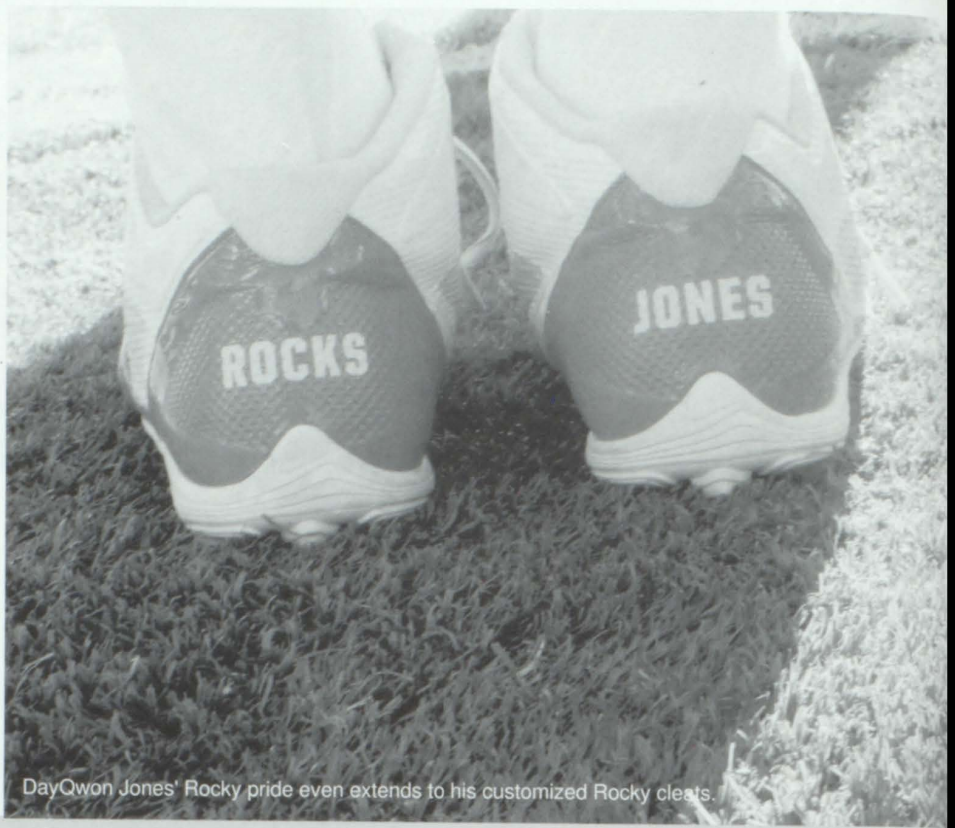
"My **favorite** book to movie **adaptation** is **Harry Potter** because of the ***growth*** of the **characters** in relation to our own lives."
- Junior Cole Harris

{ "I *admire* Atticus Finch from To Kill a Mockingbird for his **fearless empathy.**" - Sophomore, Elizabeth Moore }

During big school events, students go beyond the usual red and gold outfits, and even paint their nails to fit the occasion.

A tradition at Rock Island High School is the classic face painting that takes place during Homecoming Week.

Senior Kate Dix shows her school spirit during Homecoming Week with her football inspired face paint.



DayQwon Jones' Rocky pride even extends to his customized Rocky cleats.

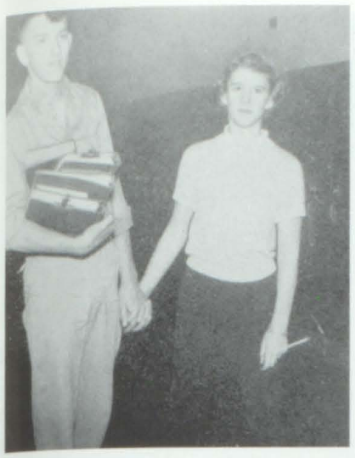
When you think about high school, you may remember the Friday night football games, or the Monday and Wednesday night band rehearsals, or maybe the morning Key Club meetings. But one memory you will keep forever is the heart and soul that students put into showing their Rocky school spirit.

In high school, every student finds his or her own personal way to express pride for this town. Senior DayQwon Jones explains, "Rocky Pride means Fight. (F)amily, (I)ntegrity, (G)rowth, (H)eart, and (T)rust." Sporting the Rocky colors has always been a tradition. From grade school, students learn the ritual of Friday Red and Gold Day. Seeing the other students and staff wear Rocky colors brings the school a sense of togetherness. "Rocky Pride means supporting your school, and standing out from the rest," states Alexia Avena.

At Rock Island High School, pride in yourself, your classmates, and your school is in the heart of every student, and usually, pride in showing your red and gold in whatever you're wearing.

Top: Rocky students show their school pride from head to toe during Homecoming Week. Middle: Alexia Avena rocks red and gold face paint during the Homecoming Assembly. Middle: Rock Island High School sells Rocky bracelets for students to show their pride. Bottom: Rocky senior Jake Walker runs with the Rocky flag after every touchdown.

Heart Matters Here

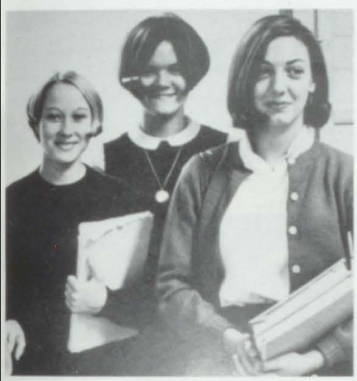


In 1948, couples were frequently found in the hall, walking to class, holding hands.

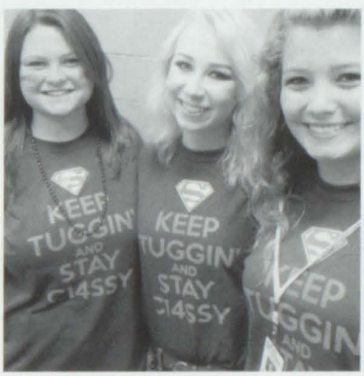
High school sweethearts, Abbi Wieland and Austin Simmer, share a laugh together before a football game.

Athletics have always been a huge tradition the Rocks have taken pride in.

Today, Rocky's athletes still wow the competition and fans, and not just with the improvements in team uniforms.



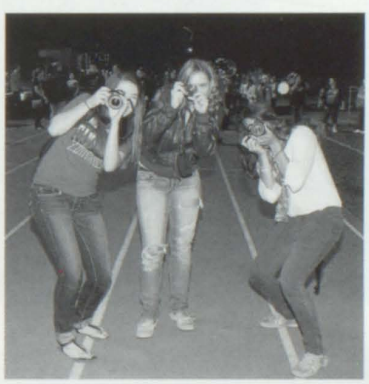
Even in 1948, Rocky students enjoyed passing time because they could socialize with their friends.



Though the passing time has lessened, students still find time to walk the halls with friends.

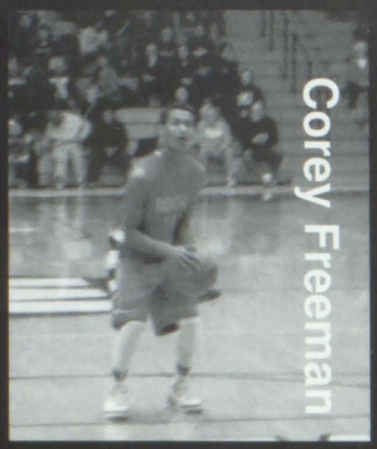
Student journalists in the past used film cameras to document the day for the yearbook.

Today, Rocky's journalists use digital cameras, iPhones, and social media to document the news.



The Pride of Rock Island has been a part of Rocky traditions, and a source of pride for generations.

The 2013 version of the Pride of Rock Island continues that tradition, but in brand new uniforms.

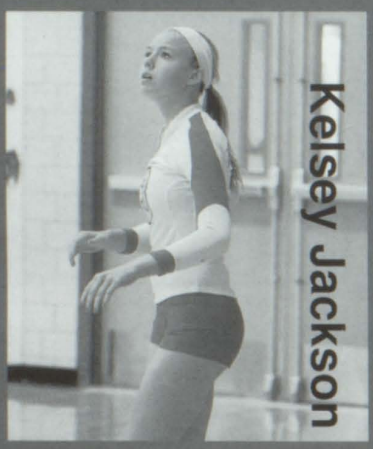


Corey Freeman

1st hour: World History with Mr. Smith
- "I like World History because I'm learning a lot of things I've never heard about before."

2nd hour: English with Mrs. McCoy
- "I like English because the people in there make it fun, and the books we read are good."

3rd hour: Biology I with Mr. Stone
- "Biology is cool because we get to learn about the human body, animals, and plants. It's all very interesting."

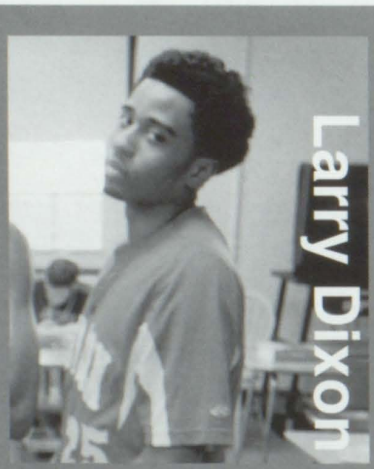


Kelsey Jackson

1st hour: English with Mrs. Harms.
- "It's fun because the people in there make it fun, and make you want to learn everything."

2nd hour: French II with Mrs. Pearson.
- "I like it because it's fun to learn new French words every day."

3rd hour: Drivers Ed with Mr. Ebner
- "We get to learn how to drive, and everything is always interesting. I also get my permit!"



Larry Dixon

1st hour: French with Mrs. B
- "I like Mrs. B's class because I love speaking French and how it sounds. Plus, Madame B is really nice."

2nd hour: Physics with Mr. Wolber
- "Every day I learn something new. Mr. Wolber is hilarious."

3rd hour: American History with Ms. Lorenz
- "I like Ms. Lorenz because she loves her job, which makes her classes fun."

Grant Myers

1st hour: Statistics with Mr. Corwin
- "I like the challenge that Mr. Corwin gives us every day, and I love the people in my class."

2nd hour: Classic Literature with Mrs. Peterson
- "I love learning and reading about old English! Mrs. Peterson is a great teacher!"

3rd hour: Consumer Economics with Mr. Bustard
- "This class is only a semester long, so I haven't had it for long. I feel like it is going to be a fun class."

4th hour:
State and Local with Mr. Kennelly
- "I like it because we get to learn how people become U.S. citizens and different Illinois laws I may not know about."

5th hour:
Math with Mrs. Brackney

- "I like this class because I enjoy Math, and it's fun for me."

6th hour:
Spanish I with Mr. Lopez
- "I like Spanish

because I am learning how to speak another language."

7th hour:
Advanced Boys' Basketball Gym with Coach Wynn
- "I like having basketball gym because all I do in that class is play basketball, and go to the weight room."

4th hour:
Psychology with Ms. Lorenz
- "It's cool to learn about the human body, and why we do the things we do."

5th hour:
Advanced Gym with Mr. Leatherman

- "I like lifting and working out."

6th hour:
Chemistry with Mr. Benson
- "I like Chemistry because of all the experiments we do. I like to watch them, and mix the chemicals."

7th Hour:
Algebra II with Ms. Klauer.
- "I just love math all around."

4th hour:
Culinary Arts with Mrs. Hannah
- "I love to cook and Mrs. Hannah is really nice."

5th hour:
English with Ms. McGlauglin
- "Ms. McGlaughlin is a cool teacher, and she understands her students."

6th hour:
Pre-Calc with Mr. Melody
- "Pre-Calc is challenging, and I like to be challenged."

7th hour:
Advanced Boys' Basketball Gym with Coach Wynn
- "I love having basketball gym so I can get better."

4th hour:
Anatomy and Physiology with Mr. Campbell
- "Anatomy is an interesting class! It's hard at times and easy at times. I love knowing

how I can have a healthy body, and how I can maintain an internal balance."

5th hour:
Current Events with Ms. Lorenz
- "Current events is a good way to find out what's going on throughout the world. Ms. Lorenz is an awesome teacher, and lets everyone voice their opinion."

6th hour:
Study Hall
- "It gives me a chance to get my homework done."

7th hour:
Advanced Boys' Basketball Gym with Coach Wynn
- "I love gym because I

get to workout and get better with basketball."

Academics

"Academics lay out the ground work for being successful later in life."
- Hannah Price

Books

Crimson & Gold

Crimson & Gold are the colors that represent Rock Island High School.

Dreams

"To achieve my dream, I put in a lot of hours in the gym. I also had a lot of help from my support team."
- C.J. Carr

Enrichment

Enrichment Schedule
7:45 – 8:15

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
• Common Planning Time Special Services ELL Physical Education/Health/Drivers Education/ROTC Enrichment for all other departments	Enrichment for All Students	• Staff Meetings • Professional Development • Focus Meetings • Department Business Meetings	Enrichment for All Students	Enrichment for All Students

"Rock Island High School's mission is to challenge all students to reach their fullest potential in a respectful and safe environment, preparing them for success in a rapidly changing global society."

Enrichment is time before school where students come in to get extra help from their teachers.

Friday Night Lights

"When I play, I get in my own zone. The only people I hear are my teammates and my coaches."
- Linder Divos

Graduate

"It's exciting and scary all in one. I'm excited to start a new chapter in my life. But scared to be on my own."
- Stasi Jones

Homework

Ice, Ice Baby

This year, Rocky experienced a record amount of snow days due to cold temperatures and snow.

Journey

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

Kickoff

Rally at the Rock kicks off the school year.

Love

Multi-cultural

"My highlights were getting to know some great students and working with the best teachers, and embracing the nickname, "The Cart Teacher.'"
- Ms. Ahlers

New Teachers

Options

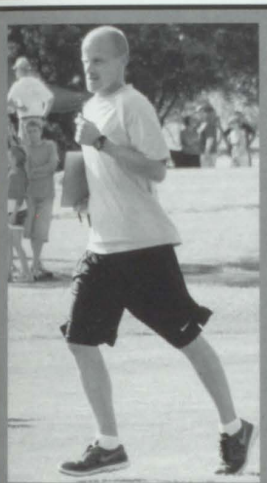
Play

Quarry Crazies

The group of students who dedicate their time to coming to basketball games and cheering on the team.

Rocks

Spirit



Teacher

Uniforms

Volunteer

Wernentin

Rocky's attendance policy allows for students to be exempt from finals if they meet the requirements.

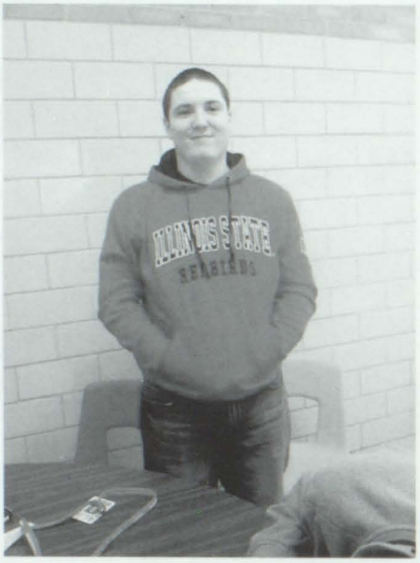
eXempt

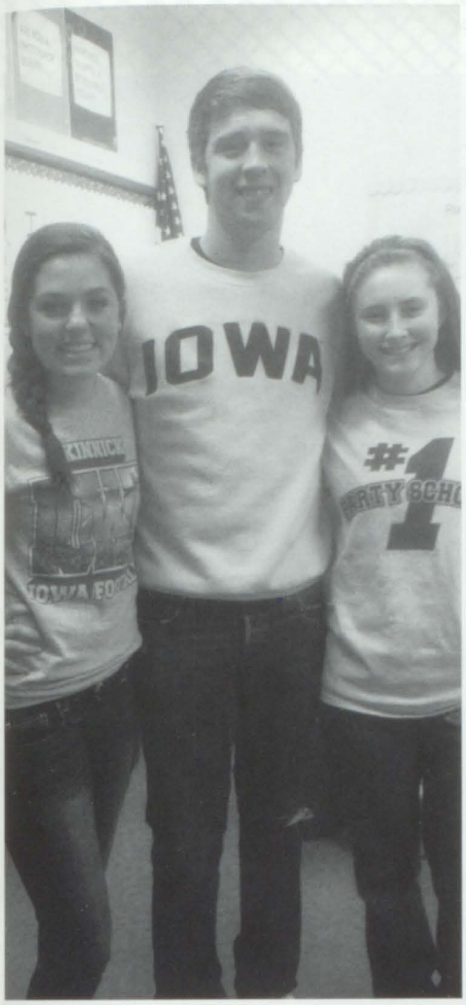
Yearbook

Zealous

"If you don't work hard, you're not going to get any better. It helps you reach your goals that you set for yourself."
- Josh Davis

College Choices





Matter Here

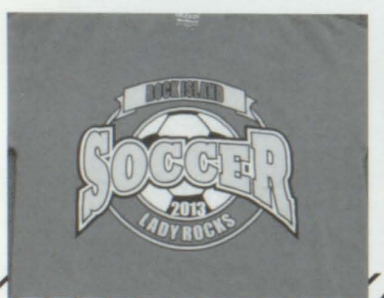
SWIM TEAM

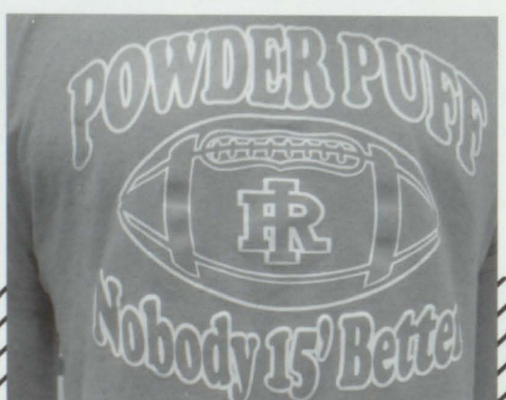
¡YO QUIERO
El Club
De Español

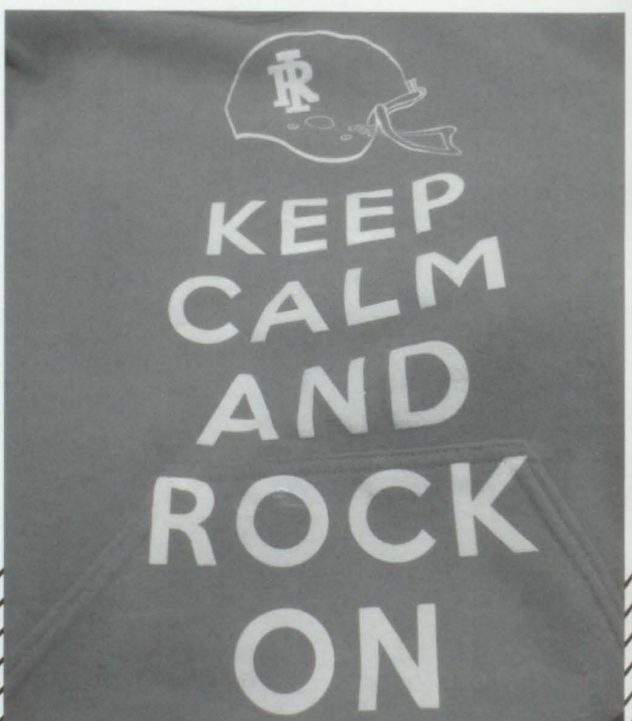
FRENCH
CLUB

KEEP
TUGGIN'
STAY
C14SSY

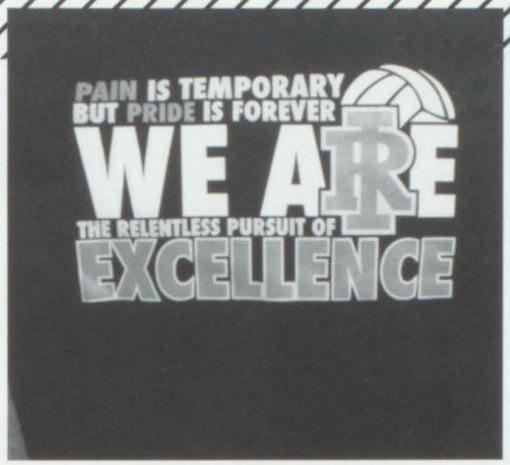
SENIOR
POWDERPUFF
2013
Our House


SOCCER
2013
LADY ROCKS


POWDER PUFF
Nobody 15' Better


KEEP
CALM
AND
ROCK
ON

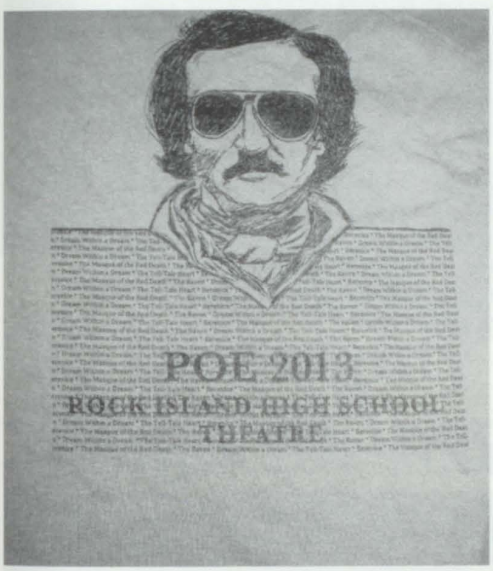
ROCK ISLAND
GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING

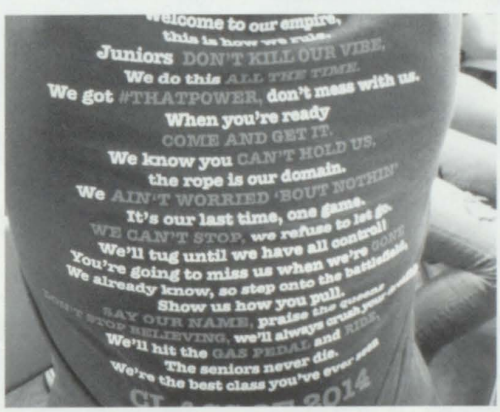

PAIN IS TEMPORARY
BUT PRIDE IS FOREVER
WE ARE
THE RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF
EXCELLENCE

TUG
LYFE

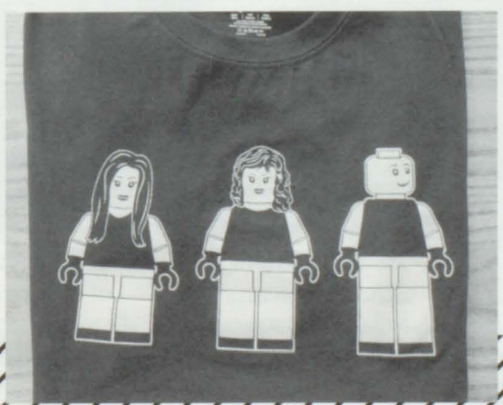
UNITY

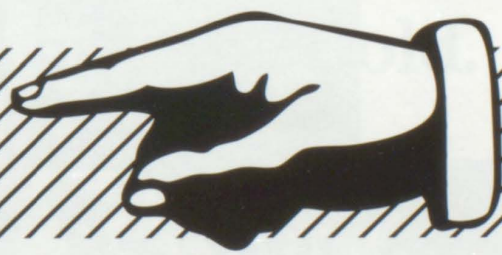
The Pride of Rock Island Marching Band Presents
Snow Day!
2013


POE 2013
ROCK ISLAND HIGH SCHOOL
THEATRE


Welcome to our empire,
this is how we rule.
Juniors DON'T KILL OUR VIBE.
We do this ALL THE TIME.
We got #THATPOWER, don't mess with us.
When you're ready
COME AND GET IT.
We know you CAN'T HOLD US.
the rope is our domain.
We AIN'T WORRIED 'BOUT NOTHIN'
It's our last time, one game.
WE CAN'T STOP, we refuse to let go.
We'll tug until we have all control!
You're going to miss us when we're gone
We already know, so step onto the battlefield.
Show us how you pull.
SAY OUR NAME, praise the course.
DON'T STOP BELIEVING, we'll always crush your souls.
We'll hit the GAS PEDAL and RISE.
The seniors never die.
We're the best class you've ever seen
2014

KEEP IT CLASSY





For winning, or losing...

Right: Swimmers show their love for Rock Island by kissing their lucky dolphin.

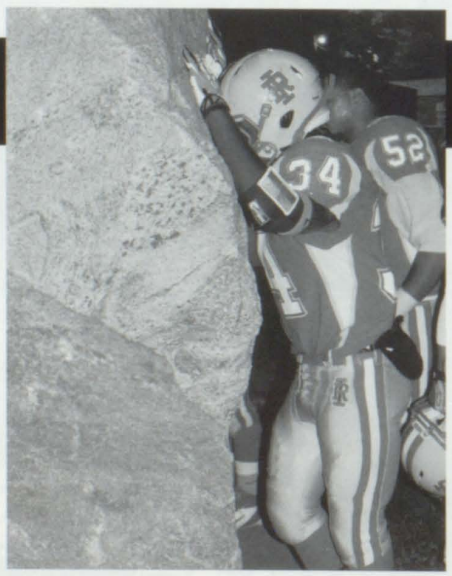
Far Right: Senior Drama members leave their marks by writing their names and performances backstage on the wall.

Above: The Pride of Rock Island troops the stands at a Friday night football game, before the second half.

Far Right: Senior Devon Wagener runs the flag down the track before the big game.

Right: The Senior "Paint Up Crew" celebrates before the game in their huddle. Michael Peters dances in the middle.

let our goal be loyalty

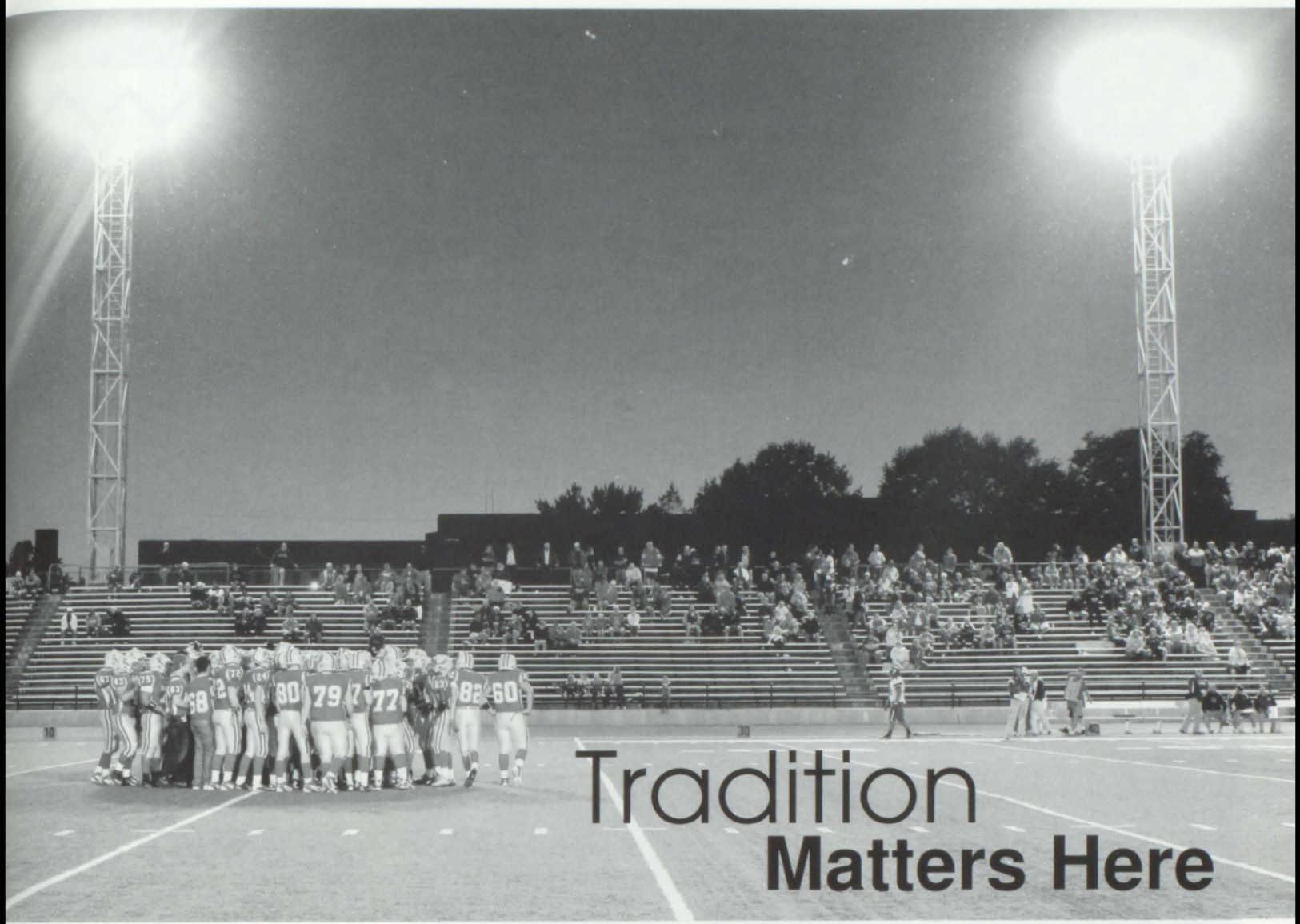


Rock Island High School's Homecoming Parade and Assembly have become a rich tradition to not only the school, but the entire town of Rock Island.

Along with the tradition of the Homecoming Assembly, the Friday of the Homecoming Game, and every Friday thereafter, the students and staff wear red and gold.

Rock Island High School's Marching Band, the Pride of Rock Island, meets at the stairs of the auditorium after every home football game to sing the "Alma Mater."

to old R.I.



Tradition
Matters Here

By the mighty Mississippi, on the rocky shore, stands the school we love so dearly, now and evermore. Though the future years may part us, still together now. Faith and love to old Rock Island, evermore we vow. Alma Mater, Alma Mater, we thy children as of old, sing thy praise in song unending, to the Crimson and the Gold.

"I am involved in a number of things because of Key Club. I am involved in Dance Marathon, which raises money for the Children's Miracle Network. I'm also involved in raising money for UNICEF to provide vaccinations in developing countries. I also help with Habitat for Humanity to help build homes for families in our community."

Mrs. Kantner
- Dance Marathon, UNICEF, Habitat for Humanity

Making a Difference Matters Here

Viola Smith
Providing a Thanksgiving Meal

"My goal was to feed ten families who couldn't afford it for Thanksgiving. The purpose is to get people to come together and help out. I understand that there aren't people as fortunate as us, and Thanksgiving is about giving."

LaCresha Linton
Adopt a Family

"Giving families things they need for Christmas was our goal. To provide for the neediest families in the most giving times of the year, it warms my heart to see someone else enjoy a great Christmas."

Meghan Wells
Church Mission Trip

"We stay at a church near neighbors that are in poverty, and are split into groups that go to different sites, and help the community. I love going on missions trips because I enjoy helping others. Making others day better makes my day better."

Stasi Jones
Quad City Negro Heritage Society Debutante

"I helped out at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for the Christmas party with the QCNHS Debutantes. We did it because we wanted the opportunity to bring Christmas to kids who maybe wouldn't have had the best Christmas without it."

"It's **impossible** to be *involved* in **ALL** situations, but there's no **EXCUSE** not to be involved in something, **somewhere,** somehow, with **SOMEONE.** Make an ounce of *difference.*"

- Richelle E. Goodrich

DM Dancing for the Kids matters here 14

FTK ALL DM DAY

?

"I dance to remind people about what they can do for others. Sometimes, we get too wrapped up in our own problems. Dance Marathon gives you a way to forget about yourself, and to help others."

Ms. McGlaughlin

"I am involved because every child deserves to dance. With the money we raise, someday, the kids who can't dance can join us in the celebration of life."

Courtney Pearson

"I got involved with Dance Marathon for two reasons. One, because it is such a fun and cool experience, and I wanted Rocky to be a part of it. But most of all, I got involved with Dance Marathon because the kids we support sometimes aren't able to dance, and I wanted to dance for them."

Helena Smiley

"I got involved because it just felt like a great thing to do and be a part of. Just being able to help the kids, and dance for them is enough for me. But being able to inspire others to help, and dance for the kids makes me feel fulfilled that I had accomplished something important."

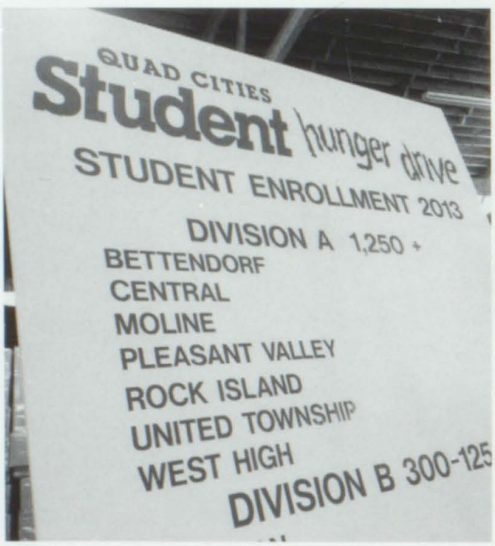
Alex Hardcastle

"I got involved first because of Mrs. Kantner, because she always has good ideas. But most importantly, I got involved because it helps the kids achieve the second chance that they deserve."

Juli Jespersen

Below: Alyssa Pool and Jacklyn Young help deliver the boxes of food to the food bank.

Top Row: Jake Walker, Jakob Beierlein, Alex Hardcastle, Jinesh Shah, Sam Little, George Roderick, and Alec Aunan. Bottom Row: Kyrstin Plohr, Jacklyn Young, Alyssa Pool, Taryn VanEarwage, Ariel Rodriguez, and Amanda Manary.



Rock Island High School was in Division A for the Hunger Drive.

Giving Back Matters Here

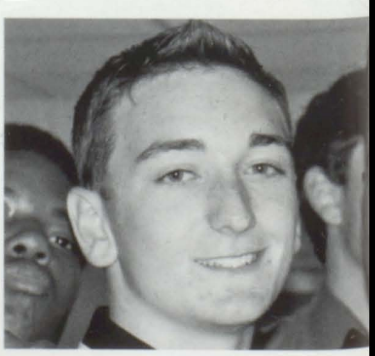
The 2013-2014 Hunger Drive was nothing less than exceptional. The Rock Island students love to get involved in their community in any way possible. Rocky students love to see the happiness they give others by contributing to the community.

"It felt good to make a difference in my community, knowing that even the smallest amount of time I put in would benefit other people," said Alex Hardcastle. The Rocks have participated in the Hunger Drive for more than 20 years. This year, the school raised 19,000 pounds in food to give to the food bank. "My favorite part of the Hunger Drive is the feeling I receive afterwards. Knowing that I received food after my house fire makes me feel like I am repaying the people that helped me," said Kyrstin Plohr.

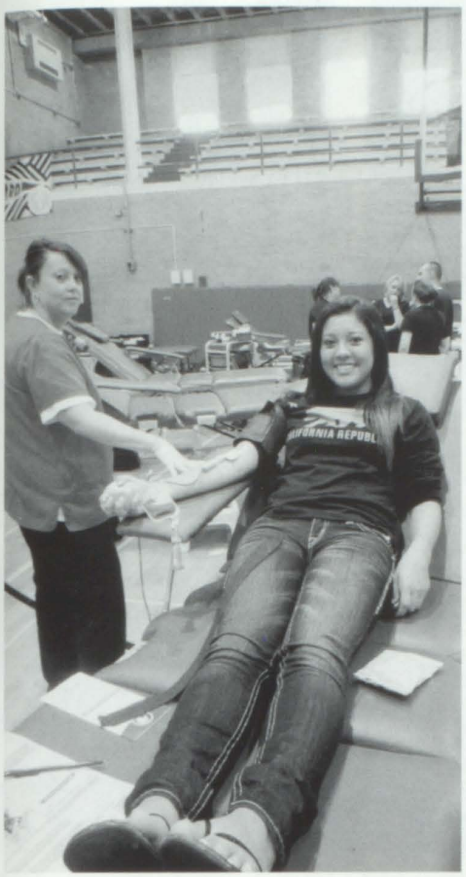
As part of the Hunger Drive, Student Senate creates a skit to compete against other schools. "We based our skit off of NSYNC's song, "Bye Bye Bye." We used the lyrics to incorporate the end of hunger," explained Taryn VanEarwage.

Other schools put together skits, as well as a competition to win more pounds of food. "My favorite part was that I got to sing in front of people. It told people to collect cans for the people who needed it," said Michael Peters.

Overall, the Hunger Drive is a major part of Rocky's community. Foundations find a number of ways to involve the youth. From kindergarten students donating food to seniors walking door to door, the Rock Island School District knows that giving back matters here.



Grant Myers donated 2,836 pounds of food to the Hunger Drive, thanks to his aunt's contribution.



"No one inspired me to give blood. It felt like an instinct to say, 'Yes' to giving a little for another. It's a good deed we should all do."
- Isabella KongKousonh, Sr.

Student Senate members donate their time to help save lives. Left: Kyrstin Plohr, Kylie Ramsey-Moody, Jakob Beierlein, Jacklyn Young, Alex Hardcastle, Helena Smiley, Alec Aunan, Jinesh Shah, Juli Jespersen, Ariel Rodriguez, and George Roderick.

Helena Smiley and Amanda Manary check students in.

Breana Biswell, Haleigh Stegall, and Kasey McCracken anxiously wait to begin the process.

Students rest and replenish before they head back to class.

Saving Lives **Matters Here**

Twice a year, Rock Island High School students save lives by donating their time to give their blood. Three lives are saved by each donation. "It helps people if they lose a lot of blood, and it can help save their lives," said Amanda Fleener. Fleener shares that her experience was positive, even though she hates needles and blood.

Since this is the ninth year of the Blood Drive, many Rocky students have participated in the past. This year, 181 pints of blood were donated to the Mississippi Valley Blood Center, beating last year's school record! Rock Island was also the third best in the Quad Cities. A small amount of people from the student body made that achievement happen.

Of those 181 pints of blood donated, many people did not make it through the beginning of the process. It is not easy to donate because blood donors have to pass all the tests to qualify. First of all, donors have to be sixteen or older. Plus, their blood pressure, heart rate, and even iron levels have to be in the correct range in order to give blood. However, the people that do make it through have such a great impact. "Knowing that so many people are willing to help others reassures me that there are some truly great people at Rocky," said George Roderick, a Student Senate board member. Roderick also explains the value of giving blood, saying, "In less than a half hour, you could save countless years of another's life."

Although many students are deathly afraid of donating blood, donating is not that bad. Mr. Wendland supports the efforts of Rocky's students, saying, "It makes me feel good to see students going through something that is not exactly fun for a good reason." From blood to needles to passing out, the consequences cannot scare the brave Rocky students who are determined to save lives.

Make this place your HOME

Hold on, to me as we go, as we roll down this unfamiliar road. And although this wave is stringing us along, just know you're not alone.

For 4 years, we walk the halls of Rocky, 6 hours a day, 5 days a week, 10 months a year. In between that time, somewhere lost in the middle of friends, homework, and the Friday night games, we fall in love with Rock Island High School.

Maybe it's the bold colors, or the Red and the Gold, or the roaring student section at every game.

It could be the teachers who motivate us, or the life long friends we make.

Everything we've learned, and everything that we've become, has been greatly impacted by this place. Rocky is our home away from home, and everyone in it is our family. The love in these walls are so strong, you almost forget it's a high school.

INSPIRATION

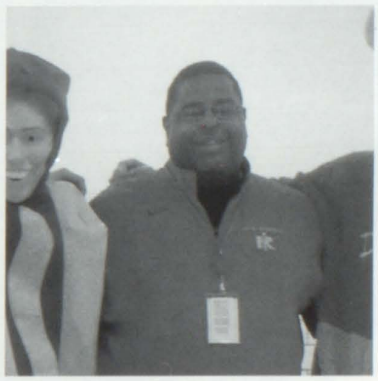
Mrs. Hayek

"I am inspired by Mrs. Hayek because no matter how difficult an assignment is, she always finds a way to see the positives."
- Kyrstin Plohr

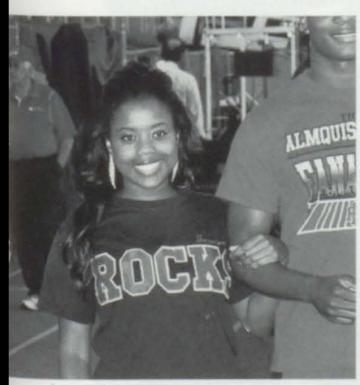
"Honestly, I have not thought of myself as inspirational. I just try to be respectful, unpretentious, and honest. I encourage students to do their best and not give up on themselves. I have faith in their abilities-- I care about them."
- Mrs. Hayek

Mr. Butler

"Mr. Butler is inspiring because he is always happy to be at Rocky and do his job. He loves the kids, and is always willing to help anyone. He is also one of the biggest Rocky fans in the school, and supports the Rocks any way possible."
- Alex Hardcastle



"Students inspire me, and by being friendly, hopefully, it becomes contagious. I love and enjoy watching the growth and development of the students."
- Mr. Butler



Jasmine Babers

"Jasmine sees a problem, and takes action to make a situation better. She takes chances and does whatever she can to make her community better, and learn more. Not many people do that, students or adults. Also, she tries to be like Beyonce, so we know she is bound for great things."
- Miss Miers

Andrew Calder

Andrew Calder is a senior foreign exchange student in Hungary.

"I do not think I am really that inspiring. I just live by a standard of grace and kindness, and try to be the best person I can be."
- Jasmine Babers

"Andrew is such a genuinely nice kid, and would do anything in his power to help out, even it is small."
- Jacklyn Young

SECRETS

Matter Here

In ten years, I picture myself long graduated from college, in a good career at a hospital, taking great care of people.
- Sadie Barrios

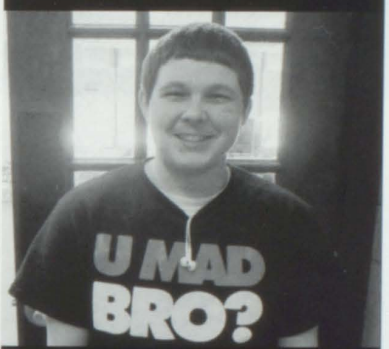
In ten years, I see myself working in criminal justice and law, with one or two children, married, living in Florida.
- Haley Dorman

Ten years from now, I plan on living somewhere on the beach, working as a dentist.
- Emma Schneekloth

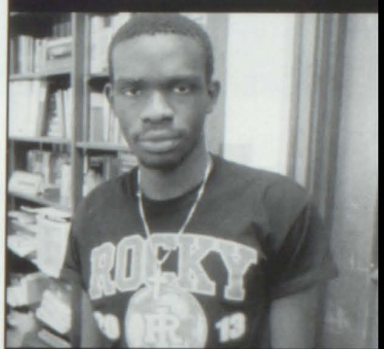
Ten years from now, I'm not exactly sure where I'll be, but I hope I'm happy, and I achieved what I wanted to.
- Katie McClellan

Ten years from now, I see myself still teaching math at Rocky, and still helping with the baseball and football programs.
- Mr. Corwin

Ten years from now, I see myself working with insurance agencies as an actuary with a wonderful family and a life full of love.
- Kyrstin Plohr



Ten years from now, I plan on living in Miami, Florida, as a firefighter with a nice house, and a family.
- Shawn Keegan

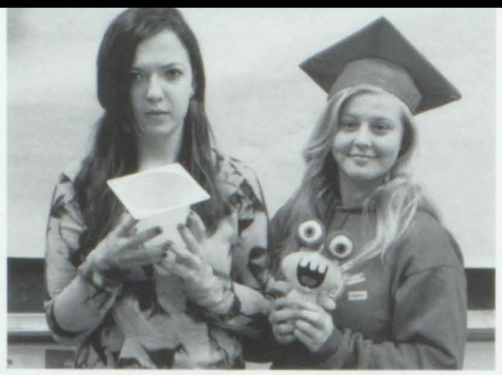


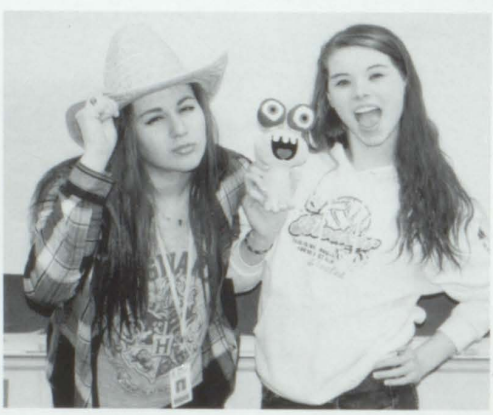
Ten years from now, I plan on being out of college in the workforce.
- Mbanzamihigo Ibrahim

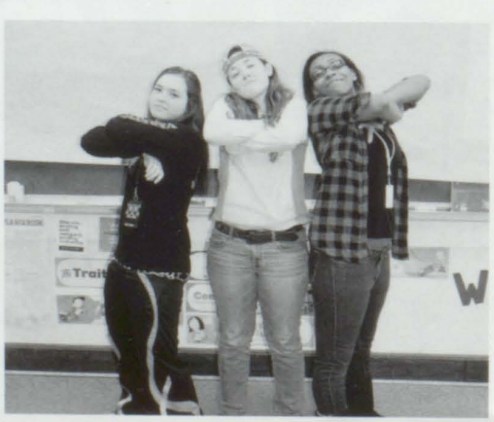
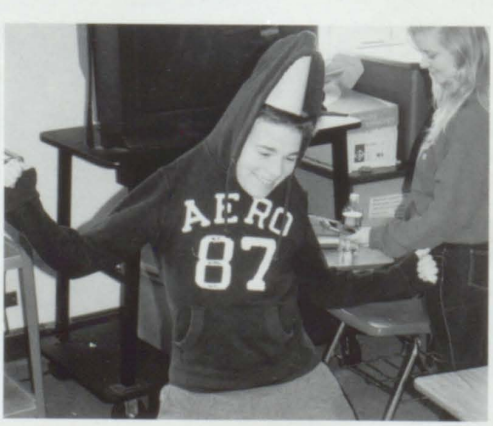
THE FUTURE Matters Here

10 Years From NOW

Students and teachers talk about what they expect to be doing 10 years from now.





Rocky's Yearbook Staff finished another great year. Thanks to Mr. Christensen and Mr. Andrew Carlin for the photographs throughout the book!

Dedication

Inspiration

Tradition

Victory

Pride

...Matters Here